

THE ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS.

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JUNE 18, 1953

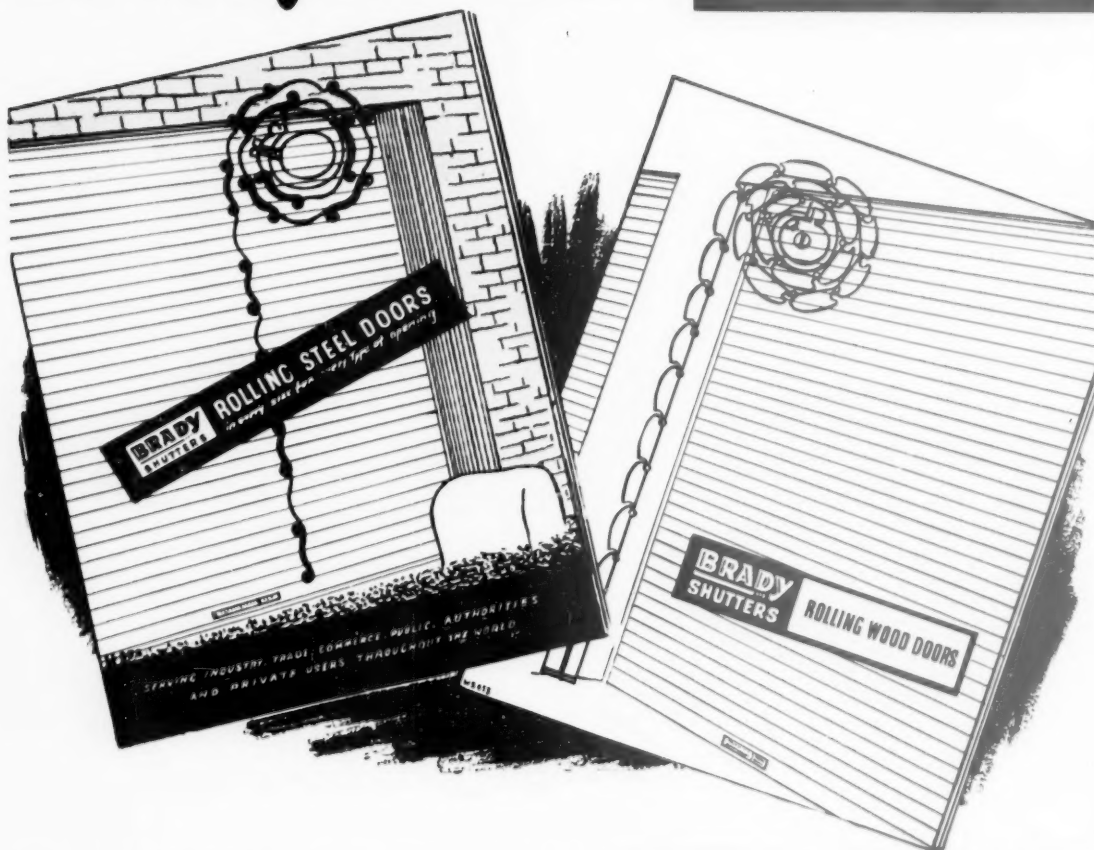
VOL. 203

NO. 25

ONE SHILLING WEEKLY

To tell you about

BRADY
REGD
ROLLER SHUTTERS



All you wish to know about Roller Shutters and their many vital uses can be told by 'BRADY'—the famous name throughout the world in Roller Shutter supplies. We invite you to write for either of our two fully informative booklets giving the many and varied applications of Brady Roller Shutters in either steel or wood. And rest assured that whatever the size or type of Roller Shutter required, the Brady organisation can handle the job quickly and efficiently in any part of the world.

A RECENT INSTALLATION IN TORONTO



A group of 17 Electrically operated Roller Shutters installed by Brady at the Store Garage of the T. Eaton Co. Limited.

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Telephone: COLlyhurst 2797 8

LONDON: New Islington Works, Park Royal, N.W. 10

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U.S.A. G. BRADY & CO. LTD., 11 WEST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK 18, N.Y.

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MANUFACTURERS OF BRADY HAND & POWER OPERATED LIFTS

“As I look at that beautiful picture of my work,
I’m proud. I heaves a sigh of satisfaction, my eyes fill up and
I sez to myself, “Elmer don’t have to worry, he’s a boy that’s got hisself
a privy, a m-i-g-h-t-y, m-i-g-h-t-y, p-r-e-t-t-y p-r-i-v-y.”

*Lemuel Putt **



THE new Williams & Williams Roften Privies† would have delighted the heart of old Lemuel Putt. The new Roftens are pretty — you can have them in any colour; and they are mighty because they will last a very long time.

There is a myriad of reasons why you should specify Roftens—here are just a few :—

1. Roften toilet compartments are cheaper than brick and tiles : prefabrication makes them easy and quick to erect.
2. They can be grouped in any number.
3. They are made of high quality sheet steel which is rustproof, fire resistant and won't harbour germs.
4. The doors are double skinned to prevent warping.
5. They will stand up to climatic conditions in any part of the world.
6. The clean straight lines are in keeping with modern trends in design.
7. Roftens are supplied in finished colours to specification.

If you are putting toilet compartments into schools or hospitals, factories or offices we should be glad to tell you about the new Roften lavatory units. Please write or telephone.

† Lavatories or even toilet compartments if you wish Sir.

* The Specialist by Charles Sale : Putnam, 42 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.2.

The Pressed Metal Division of

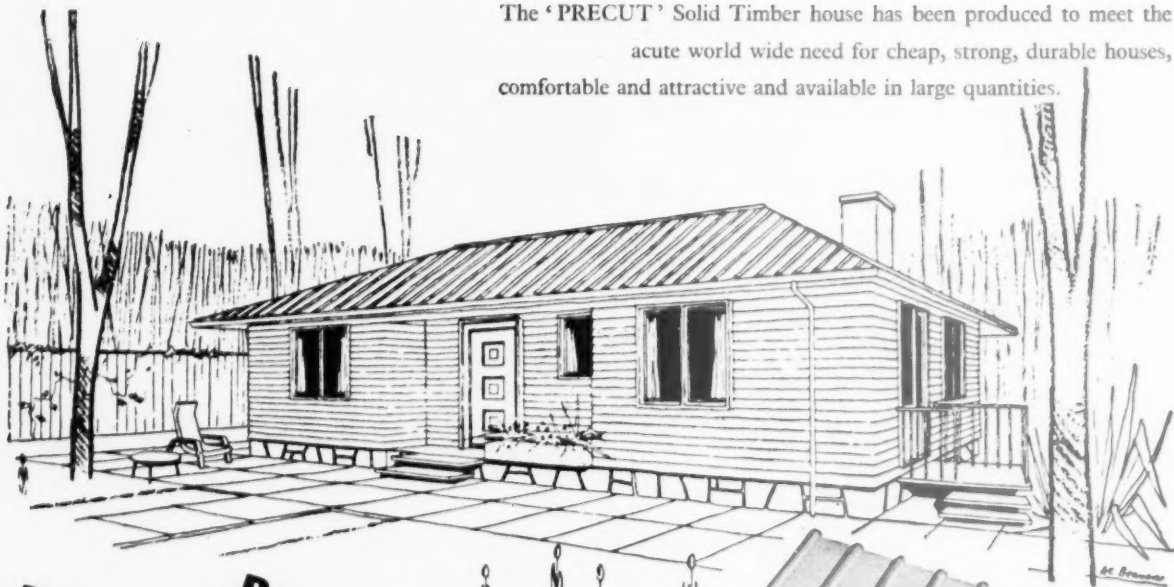
WILLIAMS & WILLIAMS Limited

ROFTEN WORKS HOOTON CHESHIRE

London Office: Victoria House, Southampton Row, W.C.1. Telephone: HOLborn 9861-5

THE 'PRECUT' SOLID TIMBER HOUSE

The 'PRECUT' Solid Timber house has been produced to meet the acute world wide need for cheap, strong, durable houses, comfortable and attractive and available in large quantities.

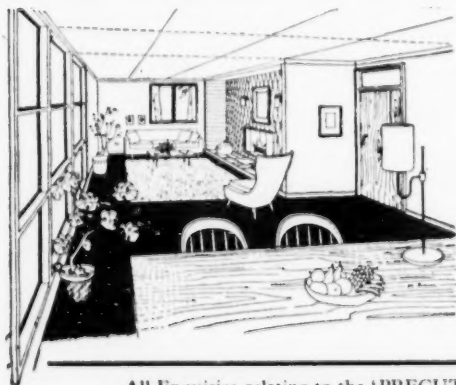


**Roofed with
RIGIDAL MANSARD ALUMINIUM SHEETING**

The 'PRECUT' house is designed by FREDERICK CUBITT F.R.I.B.A. and follows the Scandinavian tradition of timber house building adapted to modern factory production. Exterior walls are of solid selected redwood $2\frac{1}{2}$ " thick and the roof is of Rigidal Mansard Aluminium sheeting. Illustrations show a three bedroom bungalow, but the 'PRECUT' construction is equally adaptable for larger or smaller houses and bungalows of one or two storeys. The insulation value of the 'PRECUT' house is about twice as good as that in houses having 11" cavity brick walls.

The timber used is pressure impregnated with chemical salts to make it rot-proof, termite-proof and fire-resistant.

Completely modern in planning and detail, a charming appearance is one of the most attractive features of this house. A complete demonstration house is on view in Chelsea Square, London, S.W. 3.



British Aluminium

THE BRITISH ALUMINIUM COMPANY LIMITED
NORFOLK HOUSE ST JAMES'S SQUARE LONDON SW1

All Enquiries relating to the 'PRECUT' House to R. NERDRUM Ltd., 20, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1 ☎ 138.898

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A
PAMMASTIC
PICTURE
OF MODERN DECORATION



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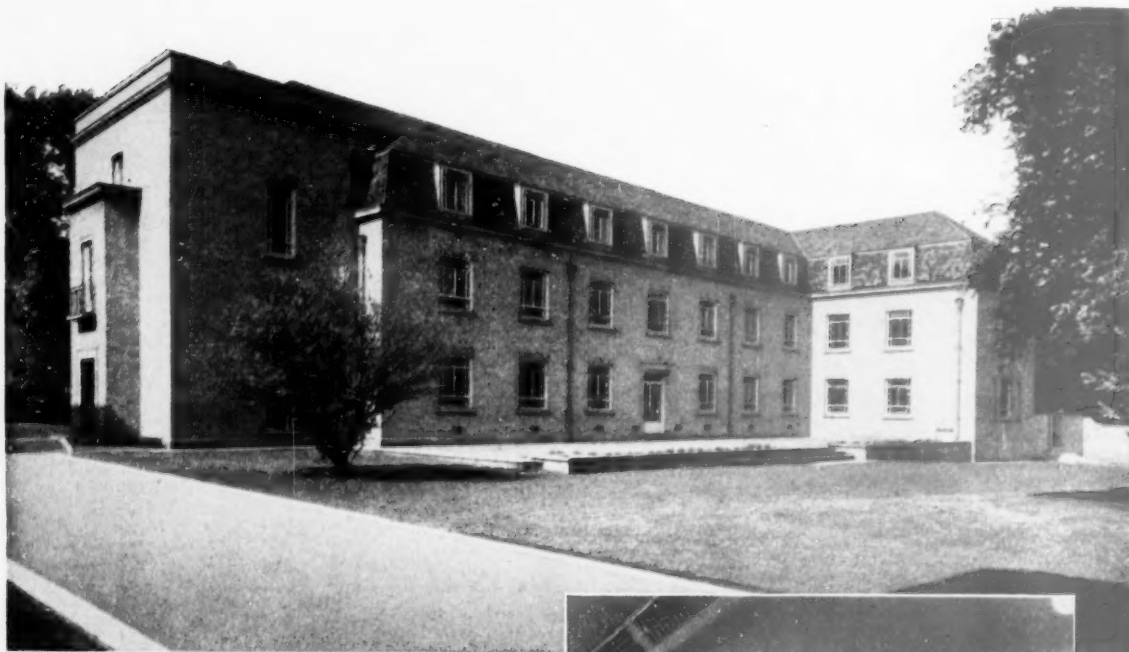
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Pick, Everard, Keay & Gimson, Leicester.
Executive Architects.

T. Shirley Worthington, F.R.I.B.A. of Thomas Worthington & Sons, Manchester.
Consulting Architects.

Sieglwart Beams were used throughout this construction for the Leicester University College. The design of this building incorporated Panel Heating and Sloping Roofs and Sieglwart Construction was readily adapted to accommodate these requirements.

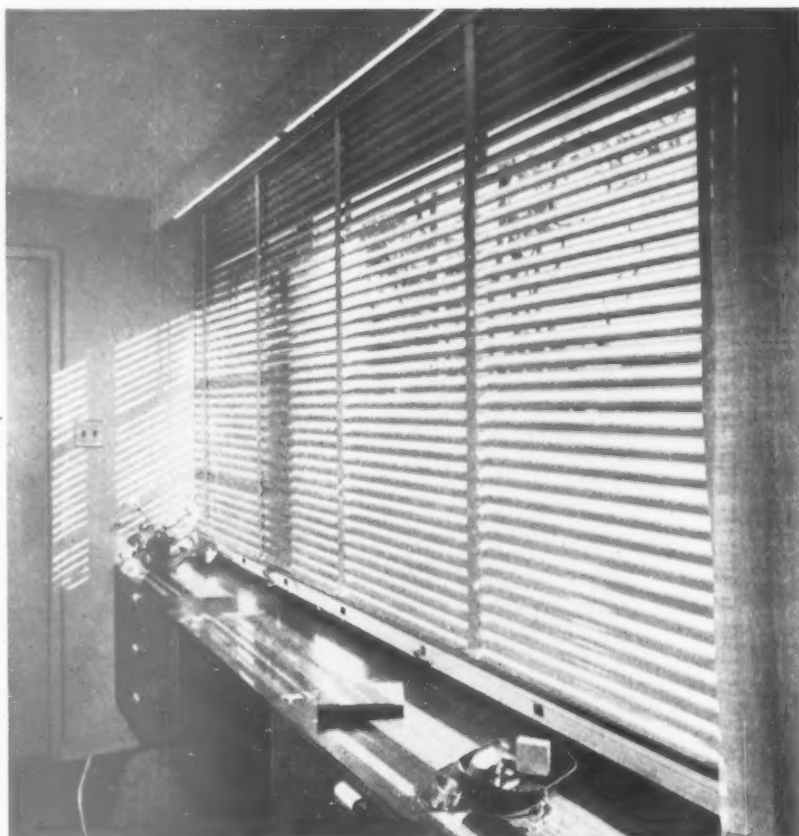


SIEGWART PRECAST FLOORS & ROOFS

SIEGWART FLOOR COMPANY LIMITED

GABLE HOUSE, 40 HIGH STREET, RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS. Telephone: Rickmansworth 2268. Branch Offices at Birmingham, Manchester and Glasgow. Works at Croxley Green, Enderby near Leicester, and Paisley.

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blinds
give you
easy
control
of light
and air



Whether it is a home, school, hospital, office building, factory or hotel, every building deserves the modern method of light and air control... Venetian blinds. No other window treatment gives such a neat, clean, modern look. Only Venetian blinds made with LUXAFLEX slats and tapes keep their appearance... year after year. New LUXAFLEX materials give

maximum wear with minimum maintenance: *specialty processed, duratized Aluminium slats* that always keep their shape, never rust; mar-proof finish that never chips, cracks or peels... *amazing new plastic tapes* that wipe clean, won't shrink, stretch, fade or fray. For to-day's buildings specify the modern window covering with the modern materials... LUXAFLEX slats and tapes.

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Luxaflex slats and tapes
give you all these advantages



Slats snap right back to shape.



Weather and wear won't harm slats or tapes.



Non-porous plastic tapes wipe clean with a stroke.

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The range includes floor mounted pedestals, various types of busbar chambers, and standard fittings for switch fuses 15 to 100 Amps rating and fused switches 100/500

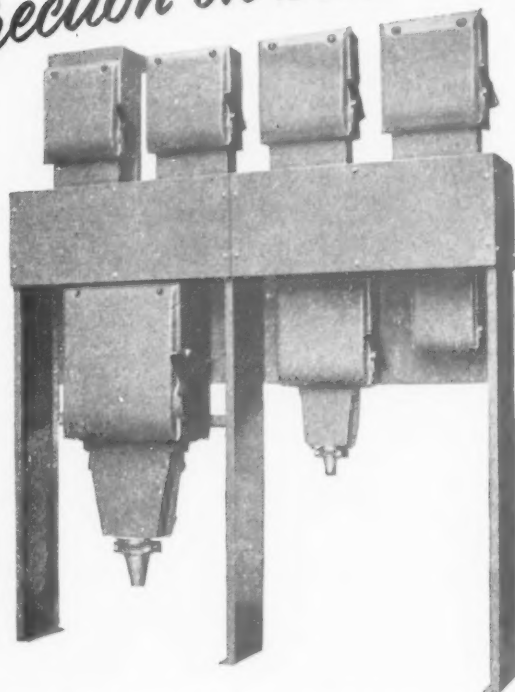
Amps rating. Instrument panels to take one or more instruments.

Full details available on request.

NEW

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**LOW TENSION
IRONCLAD
SWITCHGEAR**



THE GENERAL ELECTRIC CO. LTD., MAGNET HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C.2



Introducing STOTT 'MINOR'

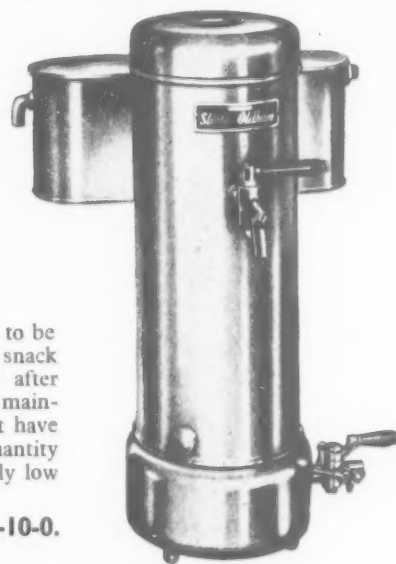
Here comes the finest low-price water boiler yet to be made specifically for the smaller cafes, canteens, snack bars, hotels, and boarding houses. Launched after exhaustive tests, the new Stott "MINOR" fully maintains all the proud "Quality Built" standards that have made Stott Water Boilers world-famous—it is quantity production alone that makes possible its remarkably low price.

COPPER - £26-5-0.

CHROME - £32-10-0.

Continuous Output — 120 pints per hour.

Intermittent Output—4 pints per minute.



"Quality Built"

"Stotts of Oldham"

JAMES STOTT & CO., (ENGINEERS) LTD., Rose Mill, Drury Lane, Chadderton.
Please send me your brochure describing the new STOTT MINOR Water Boiler.

Name

Address

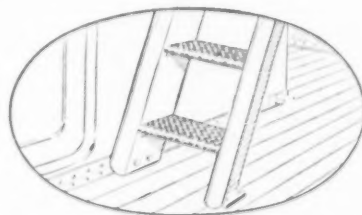
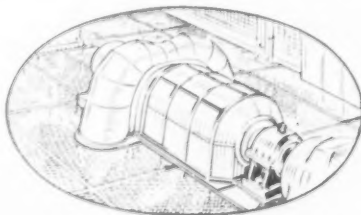
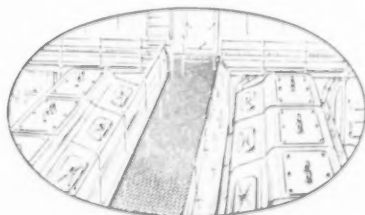


aluminium alloy
TREAD PLATE

A firm foothold—freedom from the risk of slips and falls—is a fundamental of industrial safety. Adaptable and versatile, 'Kynal' tread plate is finding increasing favour in engineering, transport, building and marine applications and meets the demands of a perfect non-skid surface.

Made from non-magnetic aluminium alloy, it is easy to handle and fabricate, and is highly resistant to corrosion. The pattern, pleasing in appearance, ensures satisfactory drainage and provides maximum foot-comfort.

Literature will gladly be sent on request.



IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LIMITED, LONDON, S.W.1

M 271

THE FAMOUS Alborough GARAGE AND OTHER PREFABRICATED CONCRETE BUILDINGS

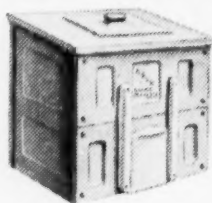
'ALBOROUGH' BUILDINGS EMBODY THESE CHARACTERISTICS :—

1. **PERMANENCE** because they are concrete.
2. **SKILLED MANUFACTURE AND ERECTION AT MINIMUM COST** because they are prefabricated.
3. **THE CHARM OF THE TRADITIONAL TIMBER BUILDING WITH TEN TIMES THE LIFE**—because they are 'ALBOROUGH'.

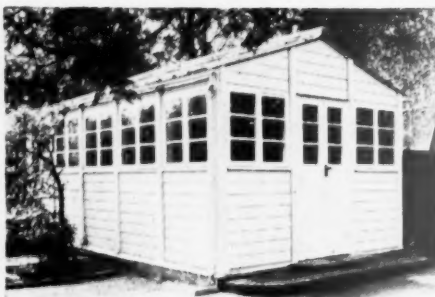
The 'Alborough' method of prefabrication is based upon the tried and proved principle of post and panel units which time has shown to be the best. As posts and panels are assembled dry and all joints are sealed with a pressure gun application of mastic, any slight movement of the building over a period of years will not damage or interfere in any way with the structure.

AN ALBOROUGH BUILDING

A.B.C.D. CONCRETE COAL BUNKERS



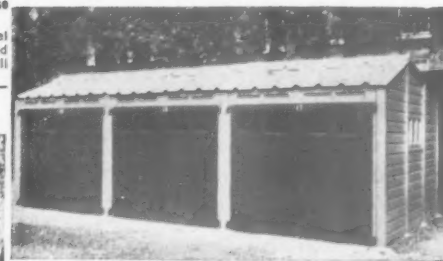
The permanent answer to fuel storage problems. Available in single units and multiple units from 5 cwt. upwards. There is a type to suit every site.



THE ALBOROUGH COMPLETE ERECTION SERVICE

'Alborough' prefabricated concrete buildings and garages are erected by the manufacturers themselves. Free plans and site survey and the use of skilled labour in the laying of foundations and

A GROUP OF ALBOROUGH GARAGES

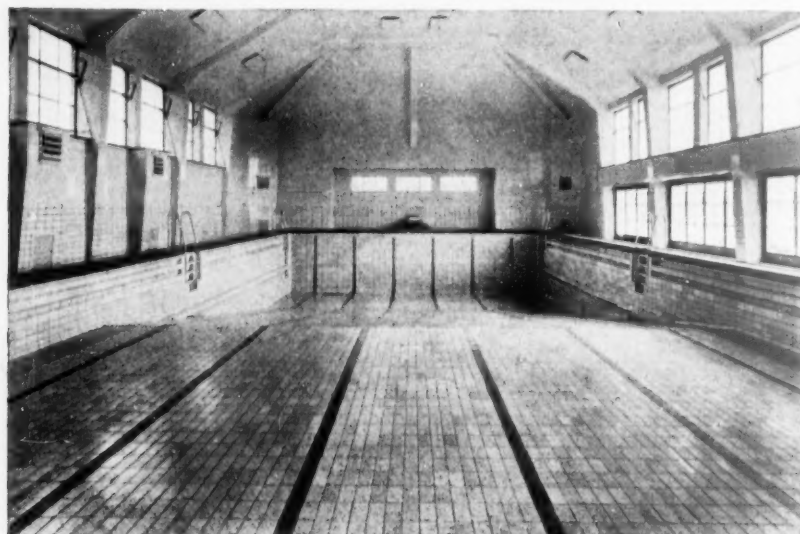


'Alborough' prefabricated concrete units are specially moulded in such a way that 'Alborough' Buildings, when treated with Alkali Resistant Chlorinated Rubber Paint, are equal in appearance to traditional timber construction.

erection ensure a comprehensive service which also includes the completion of all statutory obligations under the Town & Country Planning Act and local By-laws.

ASSOCIATED BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEVELOPMENTS (RAYNES PARK) LTD.,
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★ We supply Tiling for Swimming Pool Contracts throughout the world.

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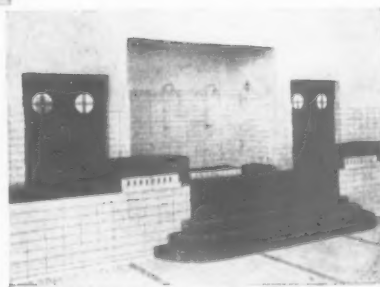
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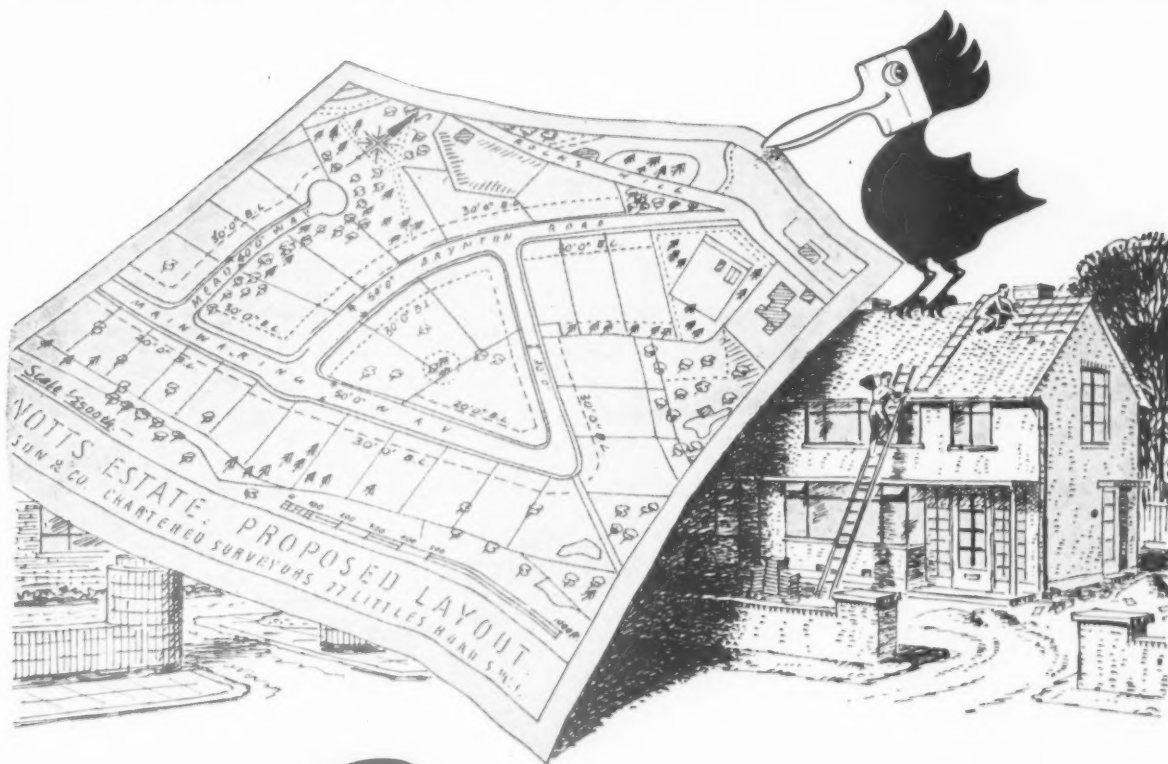
**"Leftex"
TILES**

for
**Indoor & Outdoor
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POINTS ABOUT PAINTS

- * **TECHNICAL SERVICE.** Many specialities and technical assistance are available for painting problems.
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Eaton Square Houses
into
Flats

FOR
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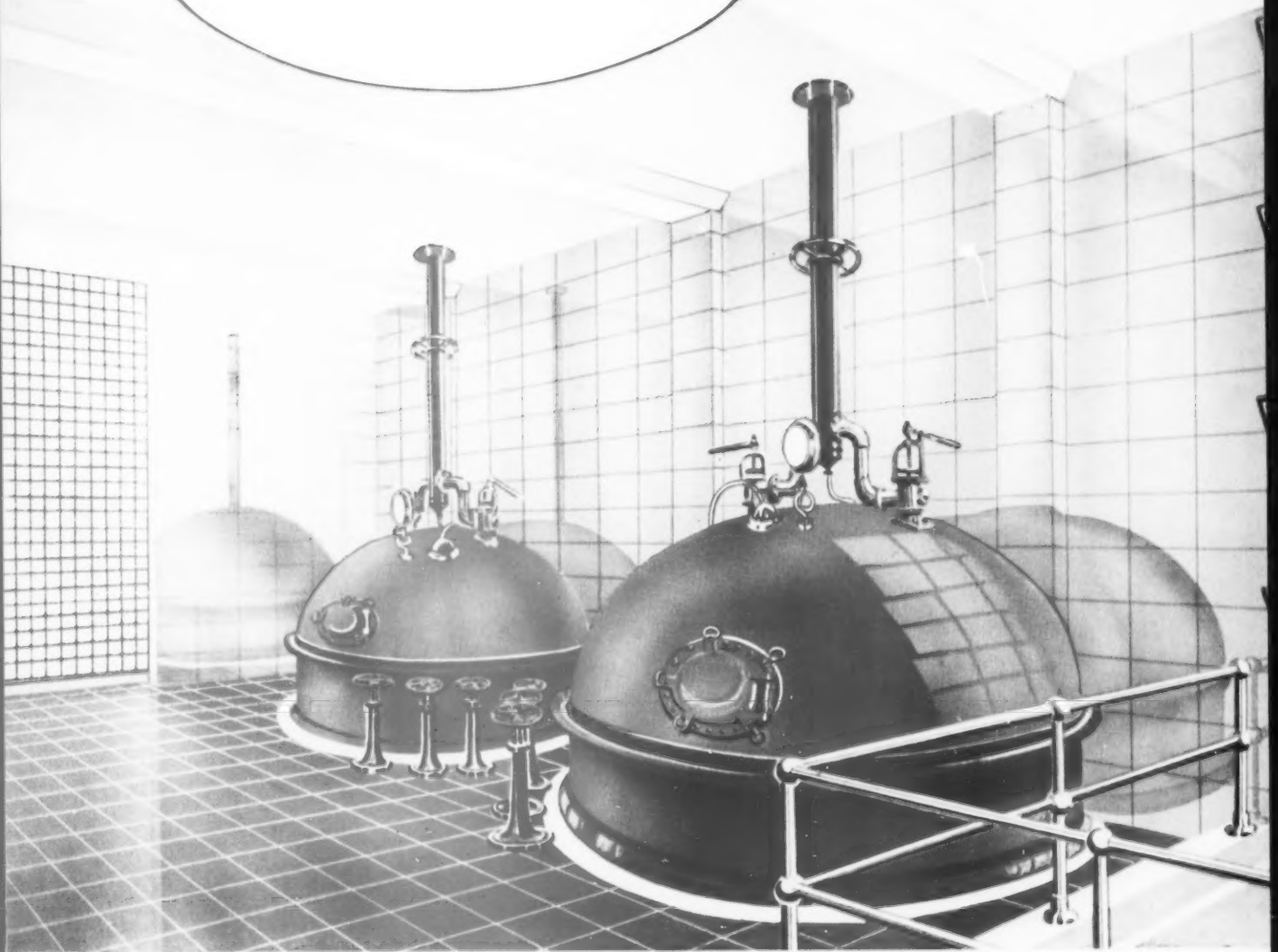
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General Contractors:

TAYLOR  **WOODROW**

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'VITROLITE' PLAN FOR A BREWERY



There is a place for "VITROLITE" in all industrial premises, and in this brewery it would be proper to specify "VITROLITE". It is suggested that the walls should be lined with "VITROLITE" ashlar 18"x12" in Green and White. "VITROLITE" colours

available are: Pearl Grey, Primrose, Green, Green Agate, Turquoise, Eggshell, Cream, Ivory, Black and White. Part of the end wall could also contain a panel of "INSULIGHT" Hollow Glass Blocks, to give well diffused light without sun glare and with privacy.

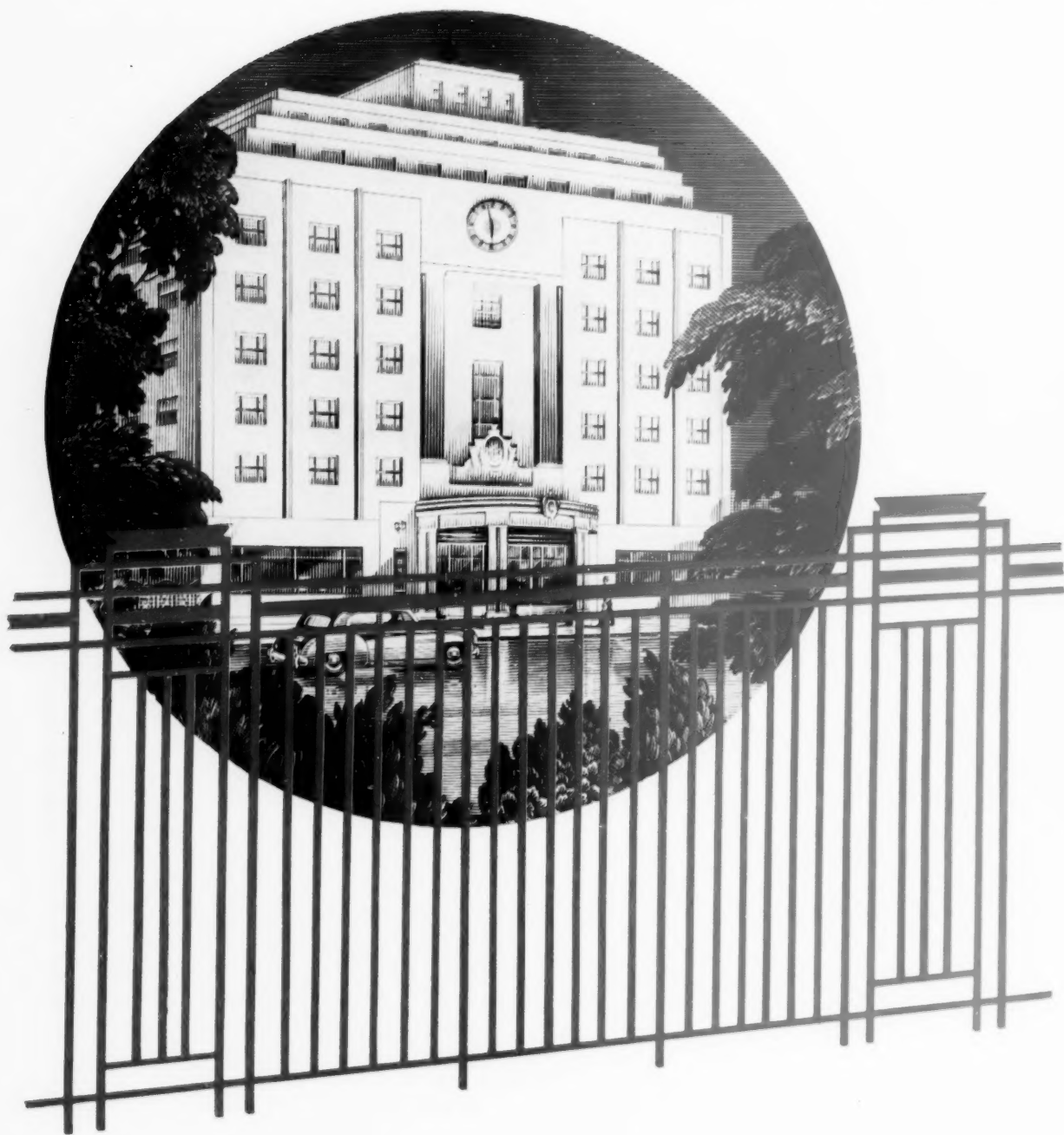
"VITROLITE"

Consult the Technical Sales and Service Department at St. Helens, Lancs., or Selwyn House, Cleveland Row, St. James's, London, S.W.1. Telephones: St. Helens 4001; Whitehall 5672-6

"VITROLITE" is the registered trade mark of Pilkington Brothers Limited. "INSULIGHT" is the British registered trade mark of Pilkington Brothers Limited. Supplies are available through the usual trade channels.

PILKINGTON BROTHERS LIMITED
ST HELENS LANCs.





Railings round an office block. Balustrades to grace a staircase. Gates to dignify a forecourt.

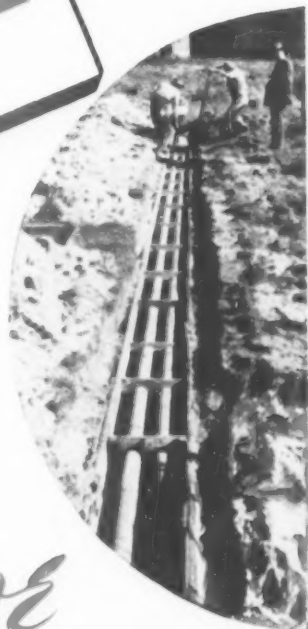


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SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE
4" "DUCTUBE"
Perth, W. Australia



SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE
6" "DUCTUBE"
St. John's Hill, Shaftesbury, Dorset

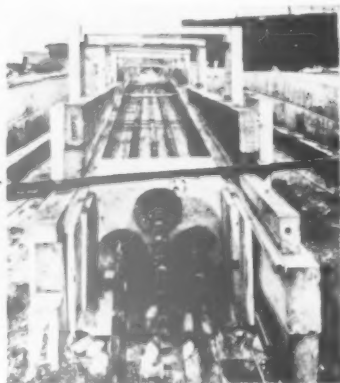
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POST-TENSIONED CABLE DUCTS
(Lee-McCall) 1 1/8" "DUCTUBE"
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TELEPHONE CABLE DUCTS
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POST-TENSIONED CABLE DUCTS
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CERTAIN DIAMETERS OF "DUCTUBE" ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

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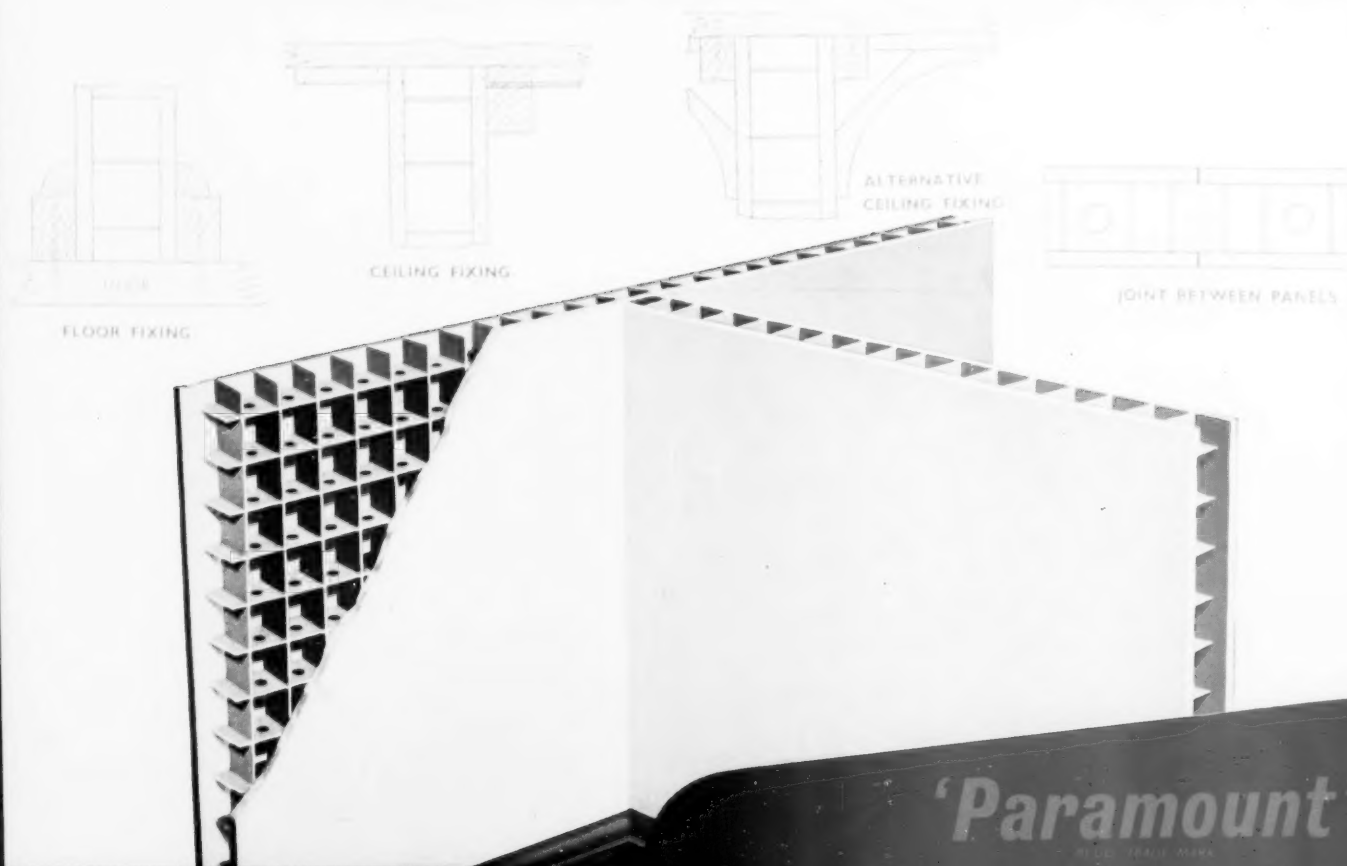


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The latest advance in



'Paramount' DRY PARTITION

Now, but not experimental

Paramount Dry Partition meets the need for strong and permanent interior partitioning of excellent appearance. It represents a logical development in plaster board technique, using well tried and proved materials in a new way.

Construction

The Partition comprises two 'Paramount' Plaster Wallboards separated by a fibrous interior in the form of square cells. This form of construction gives extraordinary strength and lightness; it entails the minimum of site-labour and is therefore economical.

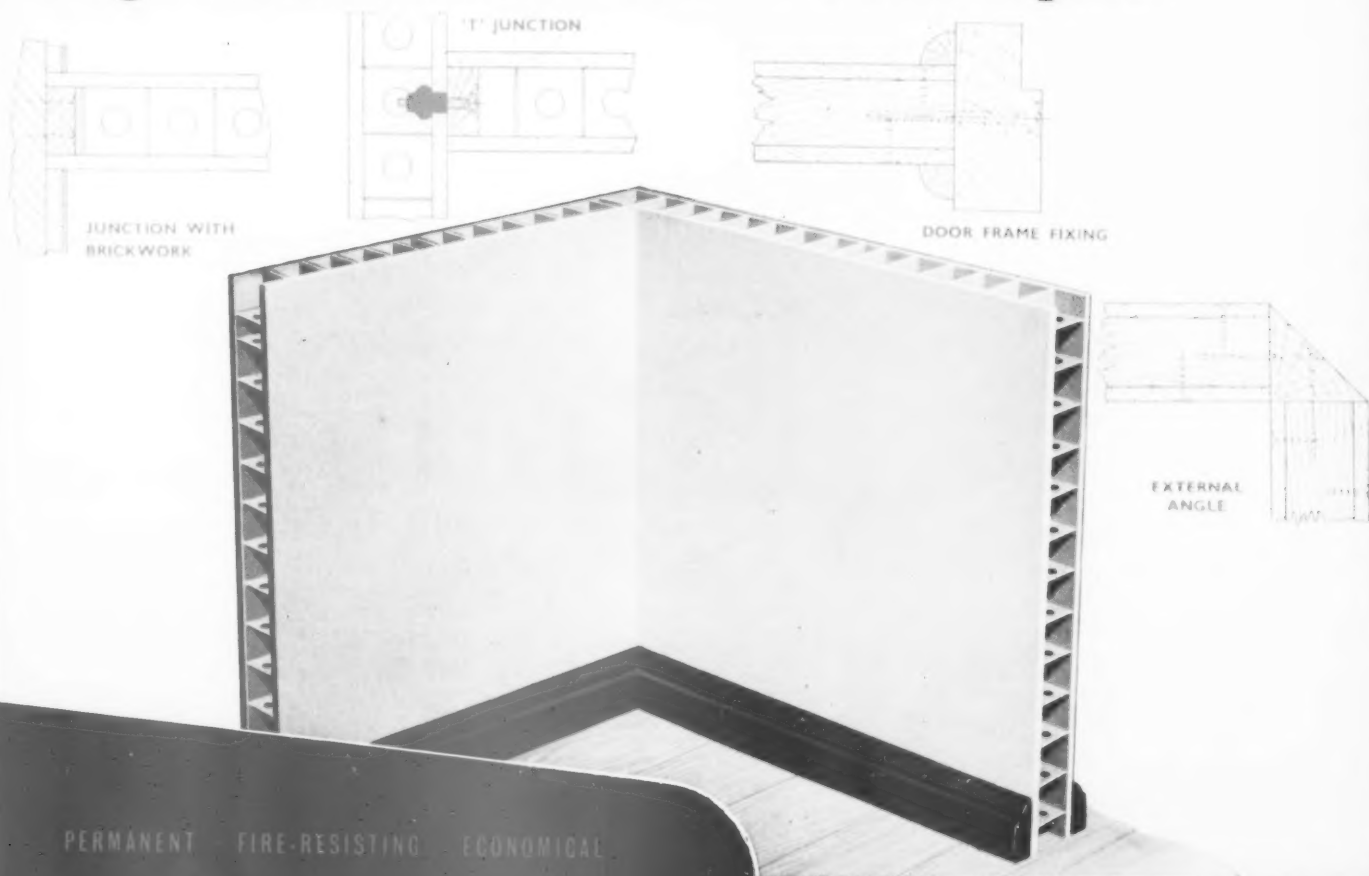
Fire Resistance

Being constructed of Gypsum materials, the Partition is exceptionally resistant to fire, both as regards flame penetration and spread. It is classified as Grade 'E' ($\frac{1}{2}$ hour) after Fire Research Station tests.



THE BRITISH PLASTER BOARD LTD

Dry Construction Technique



PERMANENT FIRE-RESISTING ECONOMICAL
MINIMUM OF SITE LABOUR

Economy

Paramount Dry Partition is light in weight and easy to handle. Erection is extremely simple and the Partition can be cut to size with a panel saw. Off cuts have the same qualities as the complete units and can, therefore, be utilised for smaller areas.

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Once the Partitions are erected, decoration can follow immediately without further preparation. Junctions with walls, other partitions, ceilings and floors are simple to carry out and doors, windows, serving hatches, etc., can be incorporated. Pipes, electric wiring, etc., are accommodated inside the partition.

Range of sizes

Paramount Dry Partition is made in two thicknesses, 2½" and 2¼",—using 1" and ¾" facing boards respectively. Stock sizes are 7' 6" and 8' 0" long by 3' 0" wide. Other lengths from 6' 0" to 12' 0" are supplied to order and units of 4' 0" width are also available. Send for fully illustrated Brochure showing methods of construction.

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NORTHERN SALES OFFICE, 192 BIRKENHEAD ROAD, WALLASEY, CHESHIRE Telephone: Birkenhead 4471-23

Finlock forms the eaves and gutters (says Mr. Fin) ... and saves £15 per house (says Mr. Lock)



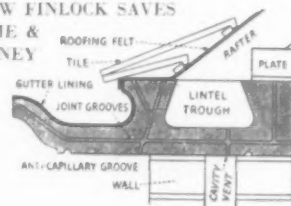
That's why more and more local authorities are using FINLOCK—the modern guttering system. Pre-cast concrete sections provide a simply designed, easy to use—permanent gutter. On the illustration "a" shows the trough in which lintels can be cast in situ, if required. "b" shows the large sectioned gutter channel which permits laying without fall. "c" indicates the jointing grooves.

The unique FINLOCK service ensures that a skilled foreman is always available to give expert advice and assistance—full details sent on request.

Illustration shows a standard Finlock G type block. Many other types available.

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Seven works for speedy deliveries to any part of Gt. Britain. CREWKERNE SOMERSET. LEEDS YORKSHIRE. EDINBURGH SCOTLAND. CWMBRAN STH. WALES. SOUTHAM WARWICKSHIRE. TUNBRIDGE WELLS KENT. BELFAST NORTHERN IRELAND

HOW FINLOCK SAVES TIME & MONEY



This sectional drawing shows the system in detail and illustrates the ways in which FINLOCK saves approx. 5 yards of brickwork, 80 ft. of rafter, 40 ft. of normal guttering, 40 ft. of fascia, 40 ft. of soffit and 80 ft. super of roof tiling per single house. Painting is eliminated and a reduction in down pipes and drainage is obtained. The complete eaves for a building, with all fittings, can be fixed in one day.

FINLOCK GUTTERS LIMITED

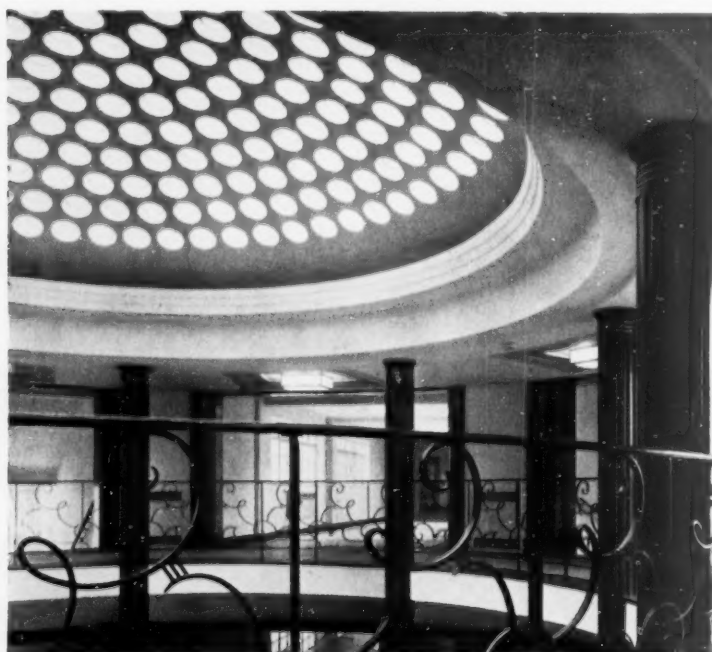
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BRAIDED COTTON

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A DOME in GLASCRETE

Reinforced Concrete and Glass
at

The Royal Sailors Home
Club

PORTSMOUTH

Architects: A. E. COGSWELL & SONS
in conjunction with
DAVID E. NYE & PARTNERS



181 Queen Victoria St. LONDON E.C.4

Telephone: CENTral 5866 (5 lines)

Data, applications and possibilities of Glascrete are given in our interesting Brochure P 39, which we shall be pleased to send on request.

THE
ARCHITECT
& BUILDING NEWS

June 18, 1953

The "Architect and Building News" incorporates the "Architect," founded in 1869, and the "Building News," founded in 1854. The annual subscription, inland and overseas, is £2 15s. 0d. post paid: U.S.A. and Canada \$9.00

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PLANNING BUILDING OPERATIONS

IN spite of productivity teams, a building industry working-party, the report of the Simon Committee and the joint statement of the R.I.B.A. and the N.F.B.T.E., entitled "The building Owner and Planning in Advance," the need for increasing building productivity and reducing the cost of building is as great as ever. This fact alone points emphatically to the depth and chronic quality of a malaise which, in the post-war years, has been so evident.

Both sides of the industry, professional and trade, seem to agree that the greatest factor for raising output and decreasing costs is forward planning of building operations. If this is the case, then why is there no combined attack to implement the apparent agreement? An unbiased reviewer might well conclude that one reason is that too much has been said and written and too little accomplished in the practical fields of office, workshop, distribution and site. To mend this there is only one way for the industry and that is signposted—"co-ordinated co-operation."

It is useless for the architect and the surveyor to blame, on the one hand, the promoter of schemes for wanting things finished in too great a hurry or changing his mind too often during the course of the realization of the project; it is equally unhelpful for the builders to stress these very same points when the Reports we have recalled at the head of this article suggest ways for greater efficiency which have not yet been adopted. For the employer and the employees to suggest that each is at fault and feathering their own nests is the reverse of co-operation; the economic alternatives of full employment as opposed to a modicum of unemployment can be academic red herrings to cover sins of omission and error.

Any general tendency for all and sundry to throw the ball into the court of Government and to blame the licensing system, town and country planning, industrial development certificates, priorities and

controls is merely an attempt to aver that Government departments and local authorities do not always want to see development and progress, and this by the people who put and keep them in power and authority is unseemly, to say the least of such an all-too common attitude. The "Notes for the Guidance of Applicants for Building Licences," issued officially, make it quite clear that facilities are available for ascertaining the state of licence probability in any given district at the very early stages of any given project. The manner and means of an initial approach can often open up possibilities for certainty of action.

Adequate planning at all stages of a building scheme, from the moment of instruction to the final certificate is the key for advance and for economic efficiency. This includes everything that can be envisaged under the heading, so often used (but capable of much misuse, mainly by reason of muddled and illogical syntax) of "pre-planning."

Preparation for the carrying out of any building job is essentially a part of that job and, like the job itself, it naturally requires the expenditure of a good deal of thought and labour which, in turn, implies the need for time in which to operate. Improved supplies of materials and the widening of priorities will enable pre-planning to operate more effectively and the industry should understand the method and be prepared to use it.

All this, it will be said, is obvious and has been said before. Just so! And judging by the non-receptivity of the building industry it will have to be said many times again before some future national slump brings us face to face with the need to consider it for the sake of mere survival. It has, indeed, just been said again by the Quantity Surveyors' Committee of the R.I.C.S., in a memorandum recently published. It is a brief but clear document of only four pages and we would suggest that to circulate it widely, in company with the joint state-

ment of the R.I.B.A. and the N.F.B.T.E. (mentioned above) would do much to jerk the industry into greater co-ordination.

We make no apologies for quoting some summary points of the Surveyors' memorandum :

Reasons for Pre-planning

- (1) To avoid delay in the completion of contracts.
- (2) To promote proper competitive tendering.
- (3) To avoid waste of manpower and materials.
- (4) To enable unnecessary variations and so obviate unproductive quantity surveying services and the payment of additional fees.

Removal of Obstacles (to pre-planning)

(1) Licensing :

- (a) Early application for preliminary advice on whether a licence will be granted.

- (b) Period between approval in principle of application and granting of licence to be long enough to allow ample time for preparation of full working drawings and the bills of quantities.
- (c) After repeated refusal of a licence, a subsequent approval should not be conditional on an immediate start being made to the work, but should allow sufficient time for preparation.
- (d) Licences should be granted in full and not in parts.
- (2) **Ministerial Cost Control :**
For local authority flats some method of control other than by fixing a ceiling price and "abnormals" should be found in order to avoid reduction estimates.
- (3) **Early Approval of Sites :**
Private building owners, like authorities, should be encouraged and enabled to obtain town planning approval for their proposals at an early stage, so that planning of the building operations can proceed immediately on the promise of a licence being given.

EVENTS AND COMMENTS

GLYNDEBOURNE, 1953

The praises of Glyndebourne have been sung at this time every year since the Opera festival was started. So much so that everyone, whether they have been there or not, is familiar with its main features; Sussex countryside at its most beautiful, wonderful gardens and opera of the highest quality. This year, although a shadow has been cast over the whole festival by the death of Mrs. Christie, there are two points of particular interest. The first is that the opera house has been enlarged. It now seats a third more than it did originally, and the stage has been widened and provided with more spacious scenery storage. Mr. John Christie is, if one can say so without committing a breach of the code of professional practice, his own architect, and a very good job he does. I was, however, interested to see that Mr. Hope Bagenal had been consulted on the acoustics, although past experience of working had also been taken into account. The new scenery tower, or whatever it is called technically, is clad externally with shingles and looks very well. This material has been used extensively elsewhere. The second point of interest is that the sets for Gluck's *Alceste* have been designed by Sir Hugh Casson. They are extremely good and particular praise is due to the constructors and painters for so accurately obtaining the feeling of Sir Hugh's own brand of presentation in the finished scenery. The great grey-green walls of his palace and temple have an Inca-like solidity although they are nothing but ordinary flats of canvas and three-by-two framing. The use of a basic layout of shallow steps common to all scenes has helped to provide some dramatically quick scene changes, which, combined with excellent lighting, provide a background to Gluck's lovely music, which is not likely to be forgotten. Casson's first venture in stage décor has shown him to have a sure grasp of the subject as, indeed, one might expect with his family background. A trip to Glyndebourne is, for reasons which you will readily appreciate if you have ever been there, a rich man's evening, but it is money well spent.

SUSSEX AND TONGA

While still in Sussex let me commend the Coronation decorations in Alfriston and in particular those of Mr. Wilde's shop, which is also the Post Office. Here is an elegant Georgian house and shop front bearing a huge ornamental crown backed by swags of green foliage, window boxes and curtain-draped windows. This is the best private decoration that I have seen anywhere. Motor-

ing to Brighton by devious ways on the morning after the opera I noticed small groups of people waiting at cross-roads and bus stops. After passing three or four I asked the reason and was told that the Queen of Tonga was expected. Sure enough, in a few minutes a motor cycle policeman and a large car appeared bearing Her Gracious Majesty smiling and waving as ever.

By great good fortune, for the place is at present closed to the public, we were shown over the Royal Pavilion at Brighton by the Curator, Mr. Clifford Musgrave. I have to admit that I had never been there before but I am not going to give a long description of this strange and beautiful building here but would urge you to go and see it for yourselves. However, do not go until August, for an important international conference on commercial aviation will shortly open there. It is not so long since the Royal Pavilion was the subject of music hall jokes; indeed, it has, ever since it was given its present oriental appearance, been the butt of wits. It is now appreciated as a piece of wonderfully imaginative architecture. Unfortunately, many of the inhabitants of Brighton do not appreciate their good fortune in having such a masterpiece of Regency extravagance in their town and would use it much as a pier pavilion. Indeed, it is still something of a joke in the town for since I was there a local students' paper has jokingly offered the building for sale and received a bid from an American.

THE BRITISH ARCHITECTS' CONFERENCE

This was my first conference so that I cannot compare it with Edinburgh, Dublin, or any other past occasion. The weather could hardly have been worse, which was exceedingly bad luck, especially for the very hard working organizers. The choice of setting was in my view entirely justified, although some people may not have thought so as they looked from their windows on the Leas at Folkestone and could not see the sea on either day.

At this conference for the first time the papers were circulated in advance. The intention being to give more time for discussion. With the notable exception of Mr. F. R. S. Yorke on the second day all the speakers in introducing their papers gave secondary ones. This can hardly have been the intention of the organizers. If the discussions on both days were not as long or as lively as we would have hoped they at least produced some good points. The discussion on the second day was closed to the Press but a report, published on it by the R.I.B.A., the names of speakers being withheld, is given on the next page.

A B N E R

BRITISH ARCHITECTS' CONFERENCE

Report of the Discussion on June 12

THE first speaker said that in spite of the claims of the Conference papers, sweet reasonableness did not prevail in all parts of the country between official and private architects. If the Conference helped to bring greater harmony into their relationship it would be very valuable. Some conflict resulted from the different methods of remuneration, many junior official architects not appreciating the extent of the private architect's overheads. If a way could be found of giving the private architect some degree of security and continuity of work it would assist him to organize his office and plan his work economically and would get him closer to his official brother architect.

With regard to Mr. Yorke's paper, the real problem to-day was how to be a private architect at all. It was almost impossible for a young man to start in private practice to-day without considerable capital.

Regarding new techniques of building, the architect ought to be in a position to design components before they came out of the factory; otherwise he would simply have to put up with them when they came out.

The next speaker referred to salaries and costs. Many local authority salaries were too low. At the same time he would like more data on office costs particularly in new development work. For example had the Ministry of Education any idea of office costs in building schools like that at Wokingham?

One point that had not been much touched on in the papers was the architect/client, or architect/child relationship. It was a great problem to get behind the schedule of requirements and understand the educational life for which architects were designing the physical framework. Here the official architect had the advantage over the private, and it would be interesting to know what machinery they had for keeping their ears to the ground.

One speaker, in referring to Mr. Yorke's paper, suggested that a system similar to that employed by a barrister might be introduced among architects. Instead of having a large number of juniors on his staff a barrister farmed out work to juniors employed in other offices, it being understood that they might do this work in their office time.

The point that the primary function of the architect was to be a designer was stressed by the next speaker. The disadvantage of large official staffs was that the official architect himself could not be the designer of much of the work for which he was finally responsible. Unless local government authorities could be brought to give adequate remuneration to a sufficient number of architects in their departments, the only chance of getting a high standard of work would be by some co-operative system that would make possible the employment of men who could give their whole time and attention to the technical processes of architecture. The group system of working could be further extended in this way.

On Mr. Yorke's suggestion of the architectural company, one member wondered if he were pulling members' legs. This member said he disliked the idea intensely. The private architect should guard his freedom and individuality even if it meant weathering financial storms. God forbid that they should ever become directors of plan-producing companies.

On the other hand, the next member to speak thought the question of limited liability companies should not be regarded as in itself indecent but should be considered dispassionately. During the last fifty years there had been many developments in techniques but no change whatever in the ordinary partnership agreement or the code of practice. The time had come to devote some attention to these things. This speaker gave some figures illustrating the financial disabilities of the architect as compared with a business firm. Thus a business firm that made £20,000 gross profit in a year might allocate £10,000 to payment of dividends and the remainder to building up reserves. On these reserves tax would be paid of approximately 10s in the pound. The net addition to working capital was thus £5,000. The ordinary architectural partnership would have the whole of the

£20,000 treated as profits so that only £500 would be left available to plough back into the business. He did not suggest that the profession or the Institute should be mainly worried about the financial aspect, but they should be worried about stability and methods of working and continuity, and if through prejudice they were limiting their opportunities of putting money into reserves for office improvements or for a rainy day then they were being very stupid.

The question was then asked why the Ministry of Education should pride themselves on the reduction of school building costs, when all they had in fact done was to build smaller buildings. If these smaller buildings were now considered adequate, obviously the former ones had been too big, and this being so, why had it taken the Ministry from 1944 to 1951 to discover it?

Another speaker suggested that Mr. Loweth's form of service agreement might tend to diminish the architect's responsibility for engineering services, and another one wanted to know if the Ministry approved the R.I.B.A. fair tender requirements.

It was not felt by one member that the conditions of harmony between public and private architects which had been described from the platform were typical in the minor counties. There was antagonism and this had unfortunately crept into the R.I.B.A. Council elections. If the Conference decided that the employment of private architects was the right policy then this should be made known widely as the feeling of the R.I.B.A. The same speaker deplored the waste that was caused when controlling Government Departments changed their minds after work had been started.

An official architect member then declared that everyone wanted unity in the profession. He and his fellows were all architects first and officials second. No one in his right senses would say there was no need for private practice. But in his opinion these papers were two or three years too late because schools now represented a falling market, and private architects should not look too much for their future there. There was, however, enough other work to keep the building industry working overtime for the rest of their lives.

On the general subjects discussed in the papers it must be remembered that the finance committee of a local authority were the most mercenary and hard-hearted body in the world. A county architect had to bear in mind that his finance committee were not interested in the future of private architects nor of architecture but in pounds, shillings and pence. And work could be done cheaper in a large public office than by private architects; that was the only justification for the official architect. He thought that when private architects were used by the county architect there must be a large staff employed on co-ordinating the work of these private architects, and it could not therefore be the most economical way of tackling the job. Finally on the question of architects forming or joining limited liability companies, this speaker reminded listeners of the story of Red Riding Hood.

Two disadvantages of Mr. Loweth's system were then suggested; he had seemed to indicate that the sketch design should be provided by his Department and that they also wrote the specification. These ought always to be the individual architect's responsibility.

Another speaker felt that a lot of rubbish was talked about art and architecture. We might like being architects but we were in architecture primarily to obtain a livelihood. We worked in a commercial world and we had our hands tied by a feudal code of professional practice. Our counterparts in the commercial world thought we were "plumb crazy" for working as we do for what we got. We had only to look at the bar and at surgery to see that money-making was not incompatible with professional dignity. He thought a question to be asked was whether the R.I.B.A. was organized to give the best possible help to its members in earning their living.

A member with experience of America spoke of the high

standing of the large engineering-architectural corporations there. They were highly respected and had been responsible for raising American factory construction and design to its high present-day level. They had the necessary resources for the collection of data, investigation and research, without which technical advance was impossible. They were in a largely parallel position to the official architects of this country. He also said that the law in some American states made it compulsory for the architectural members of a company to be named.

One member felt that effects to-day were being achieved by means of colours which in a short time would need a good deal of maintenance instead of with materials which would mellow with time. There was a tendency to claim that the substitute was better than the original. If it had not been for the war would we have gone along the lines we are following to-day? He thought we were encouraging a general lowering of building craftsmanship.

The hope was expressed by a member that we might in due course find ourselves with a unified system of administration of public authority building. The R.I.B.A. should begin thinking about such a system and getting it adopted by government and local authorities. The purpose of such a system must be the maintenance of the profession as a free designing and technical body, and to that end there must be full and complete responsibility for as many individual practitioners as possible. It was a weakness of the team system of working that human beings working together tended to lean on each other.

The idea of the company organization occupied the next speaker. He thought we needed to know more about the legal implications and to be told exactly what were the pros and cons of it.

Mr. Aslin, Mr. Loweth and Mr. Johnson-Marshall then summed up. On the question of temporary staff, Mr. Aslin said that in his opinion there should not be any. On the question of office costs, if an official office could not run its own costing system it was badly run. The idea that non-

traditional building had high maintenance costs was a fallacy. To ask where we should be going but for the war was to look back to the Middle Ages and ask where should we be had it not been for the Black Death. Everything had grown out of the conditions in which we found ourselves, and he believed the present trend would continue indefinitely.

Mr. Loweth said he was surprised to hear it said that the R.I.B.A. was too late in considering the question of the employment of private architects, since the member who complained of this had himself been on the Council in 1947/48 and could have raised it then. He also challenged the same member to prove that the cost of employing a private architect was higher than that of using the official architect's office. He had given sketch plans to private architects only when it was first decided to use private architects, and the sketch plans had already been done in the office; they were naturally handed over. It was true that the quantity surveyor wrote the specification but the whole of the information for it was given him by the architect. As to the cost of making alterations when the Ministry changed its mind about building regulations, he felt they should give official architects notice when they were going to do this, and if plans had to be scrapped the cost should be borne by the Government and not the ratepayer.

Mr. Johnson-Marshall corrected Mr. Loweth on this point. No regulation had ever been changed on an existing programme, he said. On the question of local authorities' interest in architecture, this would grow with knowledge; it was the architect's job to see that it went on growing. The matter of competitive tenders was one for local authorities themselves to deal with; the Ministry was not out to give a ruling on every detail. On the statement that school buildings were smaller to-day, he said that the cut had not been in teaching space, which in fact was greater; the saving was in what had hitherto been waste space. The question of the relation between the private and official architect represented a really serious job to be done; it was the key problem of our time.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

"News Chronicle" Houses Exhibition

On Monday last, the President of the R.I.B.A. opened at the Building Centre, an exhibition of drawings and models of ten one- and two-storey houses designed by Judith Ledebauer, Herbert Morel, Brian Peake, John and Kaethe Morton, John F. Bruckland, John Grey, Brian Smith, Henry Braddock, Andrew Jackson and G. Grenfell Baines. The one-storey house by the first named will be built for a *News Chronicle* reader who has won the house as a prize. The exhibition is extremely well arranged.

The Plastics Exhibition

In a broadcast talk somebody—was it Mr. Merriam?—once invited his hearers to imagine that there were no plastics, pointing out that they would have no buttons on their clothes, probably no teeth, no frames to their spectacles, possibly no belt or braces, and so on. In the same way, remove all plastics from the post-war house and what? No switches, no insulation for the wiring, no telephone, no seat for the w.c., half the spoons and cups gone

from the kitchen, no door handles, no taps on the cooker; this by no means exhausts the list of articles commonly made of plastics, for, although no special emphasis was laid on the building side of the industry there were a number of interesting developments on show. Corrugated plastic sheeting, transparent or translucent, has been on the market for some time, and two new examples were shown, both in polyester resins reinforced with glass fibre, the same materials being used for a sectional water tank, the panels of which are normally made of pressed steel. The rest of the building materials consisted of relatively well-known products such as table top sheeting and wall panelling.

After the confusion of some of our own building exhibitions it was a relief to find that the various manufacturers had been grouped, the producers of the basic materials in the gallery and the products and actual production machinery on the ground floor. It was also interesting to see the machines turning out work such as combs, buttons and other products, particularly as many of the general public have no idea how these things are made.

Stand design was, on the whole, excellent, the worst that one can say is that some of them were rather uninspired compared with the products shown. Congratulations to our contemporary *British Plastics* for having arranged an informative and well-organized show.

COMING EVENTS

Royal Institute of British Architects

June 22 at 6 p.m. Annual General Meeting of the Library Group, at 66, Portland Place, W.1.

June 23 at 6 p.m. Lecture on "Sullivan and the Skyscraper," by Professor Henry Russell Hitchcock (Honorary Corresponding Member) at 66 Portland Place, W.1.

June 24 at 2 p.m. Presentation of the Housing Medal Awards for 1953, by The Right Hon. Harold Macmillan, M.P., Minister of Housing and Local Government, at 66, Portland Place, W.1.

Portsmouth Municipal College

June 23 to 27. "Building To-day" Exhibition to be held in the New Extension of the College, Anglesea Road, Portsmouth.

Town and Country Planning Association

June 24. One-day tour from London to Welwyn Garden City, Hatfield and Harlow. Particulars from The Plannings Centre, 28, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Town Planning Institute

June 25 at 6 p.m. Annual General Meeting, at The Livingstone Hall, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.1.

British Wood Preserving Association

June 24-26. 1953 Convention; Trinity College, Cambridge.



BIRTHDAY HONOURS: Among those whose names appeared in last week's list were (L—R):—Mr. Alfred Bossom, M.P., F.R.I.B.A. (Baronet); Sir Charles Mole, M.V.O., O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., (K.B.E.); Mr. Michael Waterhouse, M.C., P.P.R.I.B.A., (C.B.E.); Mr. Maxwell Fry, F.R.I.B.A., (C.B.E.), and Mr. G. H. A. Hughes, F.R.I.C.S., F.I.A., Director, L.M.B.A., (O.B.E.).

Survey of Incentive Schemes

Findings are now issued of a Ministry of Works enquiry into incentive and bonus payment schemes in the building and civil engineering industries, conducted in June, 1952. Questionnaires were sent to sites in England, Wales and Scotland where new work over £1,000 in value, and maintenance and repair costing over £2,000, were being carried out. Contractors were asked how many of their operatives were paid under an incentive system of bonus payments related to output. Returns were received from 26,000 sites, covering 305,000 men.

In England and Wales, where national agreements permitting the operation of incentive schemes have been in force since November, 1947, 29% of the sites which made returns had incentive schemes based on output. The proportion of men covered by incentive schemes out of the total employed on the sites in the return amounted to 41%. There was therefore no significant change as compared with 1951, when the comparable proportions were 28% and 41% respectively.

In Scotland where a similar national agreement did not come into force until March, 1950, 21% of the sites in the return had incentive schemes, and 28% of the men covered by the survey worked under some system of bonus payments. These percentages compare with 11% and 12% respectively in 1951.

On the sites in the return with incentive schemes in England and Wales 81% of the men employed were included in the schemes, and in Scotland 57%.

The operation of incentive schemes was more widespread on sites where the work amounted to over £50,000 in contract value: in England and Wales 61% of these sites for which returns were made had incentive schemes, and in Scotland 52%.

Incentive schemes were found on a wide variety of types of work. Some of the proportions on the sites for which returns were made were:—

Civil Engineering and Power Stations. In England and Wales this type of work had the greatest proportion,

45% and 44% respectively. In Scotland, also, these projects had a high proportion—20% and 22% respectively.

Schools provided the most frequently bonused work in general building in England and Wales—30%; in Scotland 21%.

New Housing. In England and Wales 29% had schemes. One-tenth of the housing sites were contracts for £50,000 or over and employed two-fifths of the total labour force employed on housing within the return; 73% of these sites had incentive schemes. Of those under £10,000 in value, only 18% had incentive schemes.

In Scotland 25% of all the sites had schemes. On sites of over £50,000 the proportion was 64%, and

under £10,000 the proportion was 11%.

Maintenance. In England and Wales 22% of sites where maintenance and repair work costing over £2,000 was carried out had incentive schemes; the comparable figure for Scotland was 13%.

The average number of main contractors' men employed on the sites in England and Wales was 11, and on sites with incentive schemes the average was 20. In Scotland the comparable figures were 14 and 34. It should be noted, however, that in the figures for England and Wales only the main contractors' labour is included, whereas in Scotland, where work is carried out under several separate contractors, the return covers a greater proportion of the site labour.

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E

To the Editor of A. & B. N.

R.I.B.A. Conference

SIR,—May I heartily congratulate you, sir, on the Conference issue of your Journal, which is, I am sure, and which everyone who has read it will agree, an outstanding achievement.

With regard to the printed Papers of the Lecturers, I would like to draw attention, if I may, to two small points:—

(a) Mr. Johnson-Marshall, in his Paper, gives the annual estimated cost of the Educational Building Programme at FORTY MILLION POUNDS, whereas, his colleague, Mr. Aslin, gives the figure at FIFTY-THREE MILLION POUNDS.

One may say . . . "What's a difference of a mere thirteen millions amongst friends . . ." Whilst others may say that for Senior Officials such as these to disclose such a disregard for financial accuracy is truly frightening to the hard-pressed ratepayer who is compelled to "foot the bill" every time.

(b) In Mr. Aslin's Paper, under the heading of "The beginning of Official Architects," one reads, "the long line of Architects, known and unknown, since the

days of Egypt, Greece and through the Roman Empire etc., etc. . . ."

Which statement rather amazes me, as it discloses that this architect, who in addition to his shortcomings as shown above, possesses another, and that is in Architectural History.

I would, in consequence, inform him that ALL architects in these eras are unknown for the simple reason THAT THERE WERE NONE, and that if he were to study his history again, he would learn that it was not until the Italian Renaissance in the early fifteenth century that architects were "invented." And it was not till then that one man was responsible for the design of the complete building and its erection in all trades.

Prior to that the work was carried out by groups of Craftsmen. In conclusion I would quote Sir Winston Churchill: "... it's only by a complete knowledge of the past that one can value the present and decide for the future . . ."

I am, etc.,

C. S. F. WITTS,
Member of the K.C.C.,
Ald. Margate B. Council.

(Correspondence continued overleaf)



1953

NORTHERN REGION : Peterlee Development Corporation, Thorntree Gill Estate. Architect : Wilfred J. Scott, F.R.I.B.A. Chief Architect to the Corporation.

Helmsley R.D.C., Elmslac Road, Helmsley. Architects : Messrs. Needham, Thorp and White, F.F.A.R.I.B.A.



EAST AND WEST RIDING : Wetherby R.D.C., North Ripton. Architect : William A. Jones, F.R.I.B.A.

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E

Architects Off the Drawing Board

To the Editor of A. & B.N.

Sir,—Some few weeks ago you drew attention to the fact that Architects very seldom serve as Members of Public Authorities, and subsequent correspondents confirm this. I have spent nearly 40 years as an Official Architect, serving two Home Counties, and the number of Architect Members of these Authorities could almost be counted on the fingers of one hand.

I wonder why this is so. The usual excuse is that, as the profession of architecture is such a personal one, time cannot be spared for service on Local Authorities. This, of course, is utterly wrong, as the medical profes-

sion (which is even more personal than that of architecture) has many of its members giving up their time to serve on County and Borough Councils, etc., and there are also many Solicitors and Accountants who take an active part in local affairs.

It seems to me that Architects fall far behind these other professions, which is especially lamentable as their assistance is often very much needed by the Official Architects when explaining their schemes and estimates to the laymen Members of Local Councils. Architect Members could also be of assistance in advising those Authorities who do not employ Architects for architectural work to change their policy in this respect, and employ either official Architects or panels of private Architects (or both).

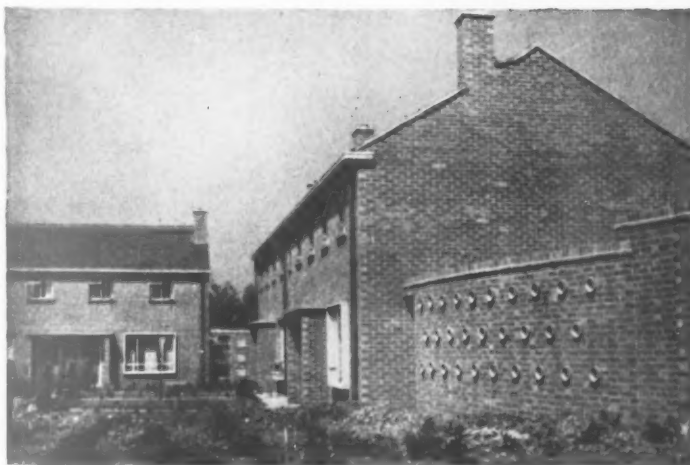
I expect to retire, in a matter of

months, from my position as an Official Architect, and I have already been invited to put up at forthcoming elections for Membership of the County Council, which I intend to do. I have served for many years on a Parish Council, on a Board of School Managers and on the Councils of various County Societies. I feel that all such public service by Architects helps to educate the public on the appreciation of good architecture and the practice of the profession.

I feel, Mr. Editor, that you are performing a most excellent service in drawing attention to this very important matter.

I am, etc.,
S. H. LOWETH,
Kent County Architect,
Maidstone.

HOUSING MEDAL AWARDS



NORTH MIDLAND REGION : Higham Ferrers B.C., Upper George Street. Architects : Messrs. Gotch, Saunders and Surridge.



Brackley R.D.C., Moreton Pinkney. Architects : Messrs. Forsyth, Lawson, Cunningham and Partners.

CONTINUED ON
PAGES 716-719

The Longhorn Beetle

To the Editor of A. & B. N.

Sir,—We have read the article by Messrs. Davies and Canovan on the subject of the House Longhorn Beetle attack on house timbers in Surrey.

We would take this opportunity of congratulating the authors for this excellent paper but we cannot ignore certain remarks concerned with the subject of brush treatment of timber with spirit soluble preservatives, such as metallic naphthenates.

We specially refer to this type of preservative since we have had wide scale experience of its use extending over twenty years.

Many thousands of gallons of metallic naphthenate solutions have been used, both on old and new buildings, during this period. To a limited extent dipping treatment has been

employed, but in the main application has been by brush.

The article indicates that the use of preservatives by surface application may lead to skimmed work. If this were true it is obvious that during this long period of time we should have received complaints from users that treatment by this method did not give the results that are claimed for it, and the use of preservatives by surface application would have been abandoned.

Since, however, we do not receive such complaints and the Government Departments have not amended the bye-law, the use of spirit solvent preservatives for surface application continues to be specified by architects and surveyors all over the country.

The convenience of using a preservative by brush application need not be emphasized. Timbers of all dimen-

sions may be treated on the site, and the need for ordering specially treated timber is avoided.

It must be remembered that pressure treatment does not give complete penetration, and where timbers are cut or trimmed in the course of construction, the exposed surfaces must be protected by brush treatment and the risk of skimmed work equally arises here.

As to the Longhorn Beetle, we know from our own experience that preservatives of the metallic naphthenate type applied by brush and spray have been used in a notoriously infested district and that this treatment has proved effective in preventing attack.

I am, etc.,

CLAUDE SISLEY, F.R.E.S.,
Technical Adviser,
Cuprinol Division,
Jenson & Nicholson, Ltd.



EASTERN REGION : Epping R.D.C., The Oxleys, Harlow. Architect : R. O. Foster, F.R.I.B.A.



Hatfield Development Corporation; Roe Green. Architects : Lionel Brett and Kenneth Boyd, A.A.R.I.B.A.

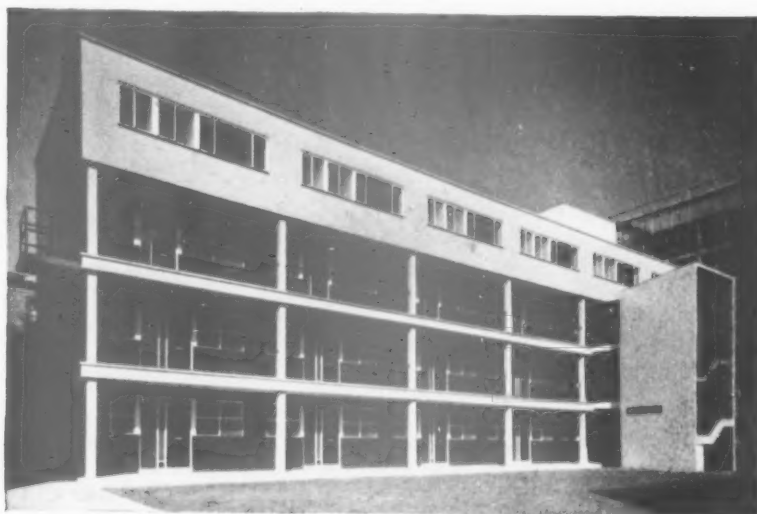


East Ham County B.C., Ingrave, Brentwood. Architect : Arthur W. Wallis, A.R.I.B.A.

S.W. REGION

North Cotswold R.D.C.,
Littleworth Estate, Chip-
ping Campden. Architects:
Messrs. Pemberton and
Bateman.





LONDON REGION : Westminster City Council, Churchill Gardens, Pimlico (photo of Block 8, from S.E.). Architects : Messrs. Powell and Moya, A.A.R.I.B.A.

Friern Barnet U.D.C., The Hollies. Architect : Kenneth R. Smith of Kenneth R. Smith and W. W. Atkinson, A.A.R.I.B.A.



SOUTH-WESTERN REGION : Bath City Council, Phoenix House, (photo: view from S.E., showing junction of Harley Street and Julian Road. Architect : Hugh D. Roberts, F.R.I.B.A.



MIDLAND REGION : Birmingham City Council, Toronto Gardens, Harborne. Architect : David O. H. Davies, F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I.

HOUSING
MEDAL
1953



Below : SOUTHERN REGION : Abingdon B.C., Thames Street. Architect : Frank R. Cox, F.R.I.B.A.

NORTH-WESTERN REGION : Liverpool City Council, Southdene Kirby Estate. Architect : Ronald Bradbury, PH.D., F.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., City Architect.





NORTH - WESTERN :
Ulverston R.D.C., Hawks-
garth, Hawkshead.
Architect :
Horace Nicholson.

SOUTH-EASTERN REGION : Crawley Develop-
ment Corporation, North-
gate (photo : Site No. 8).
Architect : A. G. Sheppard
Fidler, F.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.
Chief Architect to the
Corporation.



**Below L. : SOUTH-
EASTERN :** East Ashford
R.D.C., Chilham. Archi-
tects : Messrs. Jackson and
Jackson.

Below R. : WALES :
Swansea County B.C.,
Toronto Place, Penlan.
Architect : Herbert T.
Wykes, F.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.
Borough Architect.

**At foot of page : Maelor
R.D.C., Horseman's Green
Houghton. Architects :**
Messrs. Anthony Clark,
F. C. Roberts and Partners,
F./A.R.I.B.A.



New Housing at Glenrothes

The Glenrothes Development Corporation has received the Secretary of State's approval for the largest housing development so far as new towns in Scotland are concerned. This development is the second stage of Auchmuty Precinct and comprises 802 houses and two small corner shops for local needs.

The total cost of the building contract exceeds £1,153,000 exclusive of the cost of land, roads, sewers and other services. The houses range in size from one to five apartments and comprise four of one-apartment, 75 of two-apartments, 390 of three-apartments, 221 of four-apartments and 112 of five-apartments. The houses are of various types consisting of cottages, terraces, blocks of flats and four-storey maisonnettes, all of which have been approved by the Department of Health for Scotland.

The Corporation decided, with a view to securing keen competitive offers to deal with this development on the basis of a large-scale contract. An average reduction of not less than £150 per house has been secured compared with previous contract prices. The average prices per standard house, exclusive of land, roads and services is as follows: one-apartment, £1,030; two-apartment, £1,175; three-apartment, £1,350; four-apartment, £1,375; five-apartment, £1,460.

Acceptances have been issued to the successful contractors and it is hoped that building operations will start at an early date. All the houses are of traditional construction designed by the Corporation's own staff. The erection of maisonnettes is a new departure so far as new town development in Scotland is concerned. These houses will adjoin the town centre flanked by large blocks of flatted houses and will contribute to the ultimate architectural treatment of the central core of the new town. Site preparations are well forward and provision has been made for sites for schools, public buildings, open spaces and other amenities.

North Wales Architectural Society

Reviewing the activities of the North Wales Architectural Society during the past year, the president, Mr. Leonard Moseley, F.R.I.C.S., L.R.I.B.A., said at the annual meeting in Bangor recently that the council had taken up with the Ministry concerned a report that when a local educational authority had asked for names of architects to be recommended for consideration for the design of a proposed new school, the Ministry had submitted the name of only one firm, thus giving the authority no choice.

The Ministry had admitted the facts to be true in this particular instance although contrary to usual policy, and had stated that steps had been taken to prevent a similar occurrence in the future. "This," said the president, "is probably the most important achieve-

ment of the year in the best interests not only of architects, but of the general public."



This photograph shows the commemorative plaques which, on the suggestion of Dr. R. Bradbury, City Architect and Director of Housing, the Housing Committee of Liverpool has decided to fix on dwellings completed during Coronation Year.

The Plaques, which take the form of glazed tiles 9in wide x 10½in high and ½in thick, have been designed to Dr. Bradbury's requirements by Mitzi Cunliffe, the well-known sculptor, and manufactured by Pilkington's Tiles, Ltd., Clifton Junction, Manchester. The general background is light powder-blue whilst the crown and ornamental scrollwork is off-white; the lettering is black. The size of the tile was determined so as to course-in with local facing bricks.

York Courses on Protection and Repair of Historic Buildings

The Academic Development Committee of York Civic Trust held two courses on Protection and Repair of Historic Buildings at York last Easter. These consisted of a fortnight's General Course, followed by a week's Specialized Course on *The Care of Churches*. Both courses were successful. Among those attending the General Course were the Vice-President of the (American) Society of Architectural Historians, who had come from New York specially for the course, and the Inspector of National Monuments for Eire. The number of applications to join *The Care of Churches* course was considerably greater than the number of places available, and in view of this it is hoped to repeat the course at Easter, 1954.

The Academic Development Committee announces that two more courses on Protection and Repair of Historic Buildings will be held at St. Mary's Hotel, York, this autumn. There will be a two-week General Course from September 7 to 19 and a Specialized

Course on *Foundation and Wall Repairs* from September 21 to 26. The courses will be fully residential, but a few non-resident members can be included if bookings are excessive. Prospectuses will be available this month, and all enquiries should be addressed to *The Secretary, St. Anthony's Hall, York.*

One-day Course at Oxford

A one-day course on "20th Century Developments in Architecture and Building," organized by the Southern Regional Council for Further Education, in conjunction with Oxford Education Committee will be held at Oxford Town Hall on Saturday, June 20. The course is for teachers and members of the professions and occupations concerned. The chairman is Mr. R. W. Whittington, President of the Southern Counties Federation of Building Trades Employers, and the speakers will be Mr. T. E. Scott, C.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., Hon. F.I.B.D., Head of the Department of Architecture and Building, Northern Polytechnic; Mr. D. E. Woodbine Parish, Past President, L.M.B.A., and Mr. D. A. G. Reid, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., A.M.I.Struct.E., Principal of the Britton School of Building, and Mr. K. Bishop, General Building Foreman, Oxford. Details are obtainable from Mr. J. Brosnall, Shire Hall, Reading.

R.I.C.S. Officers, 1953-54

At the first meeting of the newly elected Council of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, the following were elected officers for the Session 1953-1954: *President:* Mr. G. A. Coombe, M.C., Chief Surveyor, Prudential Assurance Co., Ltd.; *Senior Vice-president:* Mr. Charles P. Bowyer, T.D., chartered surveyor of Slough; *Vice-presidents:* Mr. W. M. Balch, chartered surveyor of Chelmsford; The Honourable Geoffrey J. Bourke, Land Agent to the Nature Conservancy; Mr. William R. Brackett, O.B.E., T.D., B.Sc., chartered surveyor of Nottingham.

Institution of Structural Engineers Officers

At the Annual General Meeting of The Institution of Structural Engineers which was held on May 24 the following Honorary Officers and members of the Council were elected for the Session 1953-1954: *President:* Lt. Col. R. F. Galbraith; *Vice-presidents:* Dr. S. B. Hamilton, Mr. S. Vaughan, Mr. J. Guthrie Brown, Professor A. G. Pugsley, Professor A. L. L. Baker, Mr. G. S. McDonald; *Honorary Treasurer:* Mr. L. E. Kent; *Honorary Secretary:* Mr. J. Singleton-Green; *Honorary Editor:* Mr. W. H. Woodcock; *Honorary Curator:* Mr. F. R. Bullen; *Honorary Librarian:* Mr. Wallace A. Evans; *Members of Council:* Mr. D. H. New, Mr. John Mason, Mr. T. Bedford, Mr. A. P. Mason; *Associate Members of Council:* Mr. D. T. Williams, Mr. H. V. Hill.



Aerial view of Belgravia (Aerofilms)

Conversion Scheme for EATON SQUARE

ARCHITECTS: RAGLAN SQUIRE



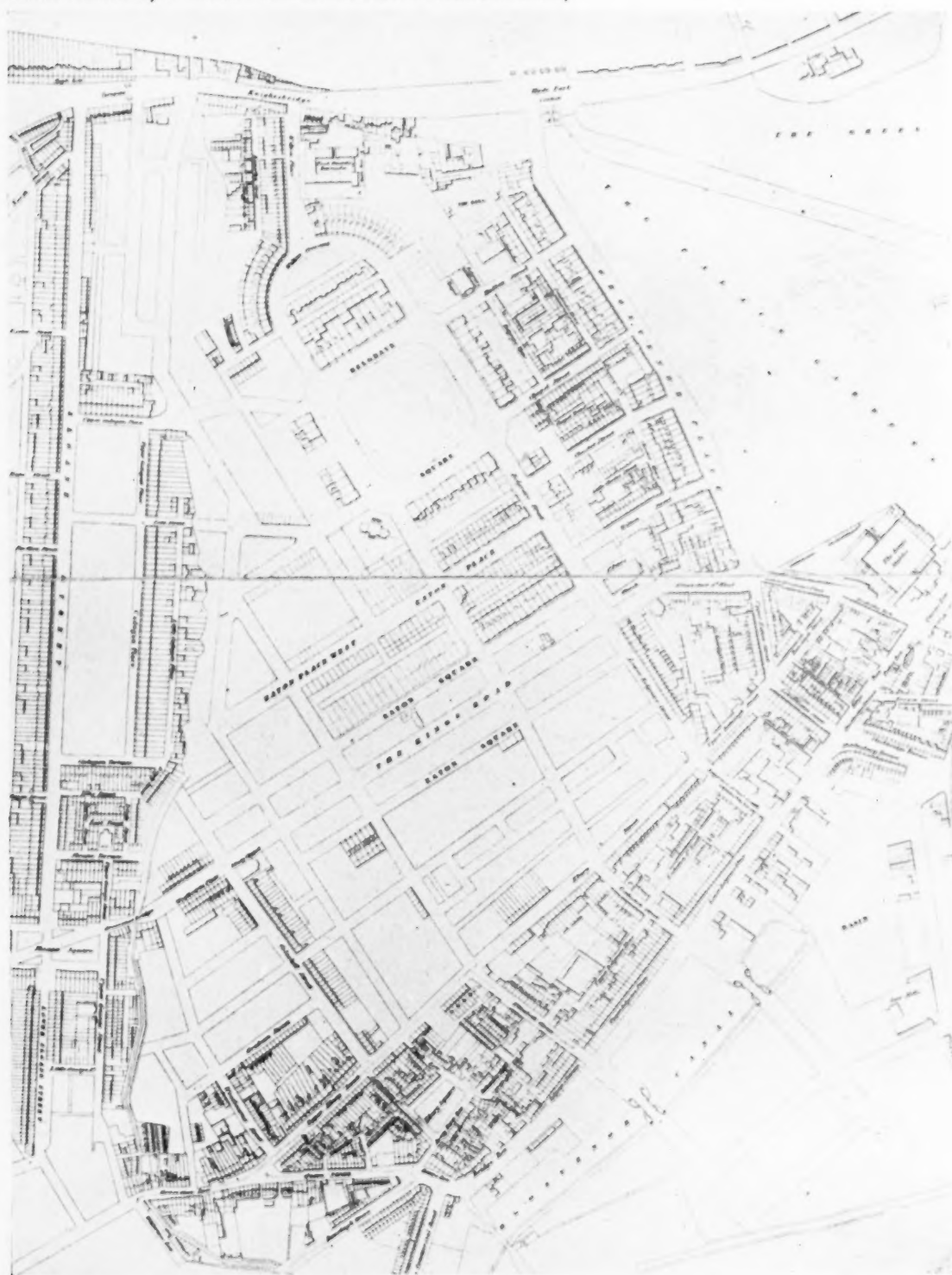
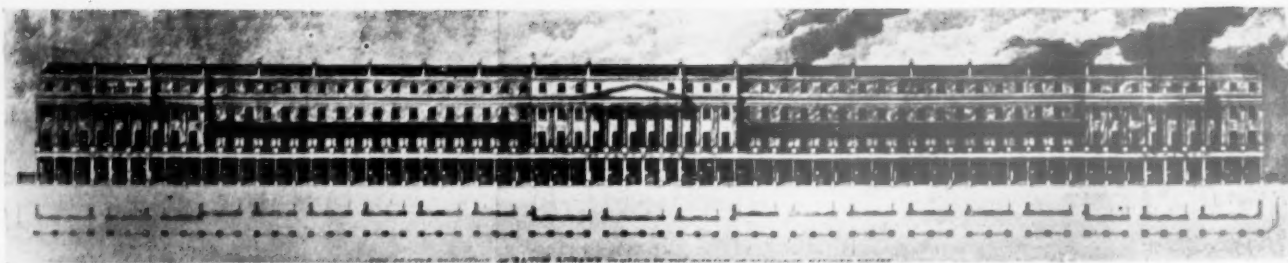
John Rocque's map of 1755 showing the area before development¹

Historical Notes on Eaton Square—Belgravia

IN the latter half of the 18th century there had been development along the roads surrounding the Belgravia neighbourhood, but the intervening area, known as "Five Fields," remained as agricultural land for a further quarter of a century.

Lord Grosvenor, whose family had held this land since the 17th century, appears to have been interested in developing it, for the Royal Academy Catalogue for 1795 refers to a proposed square by his architect William Porden, while in the 1819 edition of Horwood's Map of London, there is a street layout differing little from the one ultimately followed. Thus an unsigned plan of a Leasehold Estate in the Crace collection at the British Museum dated 1825 may be a final working plan. It seems principally concerned with Belgrave Square and since Basevi was engaged to design the main terraces, he may have been responsible for this layout, although a contemporary writer tells us that "the noble proprietor and his surveyors have . . . arranged *their* plan."

All these schemes had provided for the straightening of the old notorious and meandering King's Road to form an axis with the Palace. Although Eaton Square may not have been envisaged as a square in the literal and accepted sense, appearing as it does in the Crace plan almost as a road diversion to provide space for the rather ponderous expanse of Belgrave Square, it has by happy chance proved to be a very fine piece of layout and the description "noble parkway" is well deserved. It is of considerable length, some 1,600ft, and in contrast is only about 350ft in width, emphasizing the length. Its terraces of houses face on to secondary service roads, with ample tree-filled gardens between these and the central King's Road that carries the main through



traffic. Eaton Square residents have thus been spared the din, dust and general inconvenience doubtless experienced by those living in the more normal type of square.

This parkway would, incidentally, have linked up with the projected Royal Avenue from the Royal Hospital at Chelsea to Kensington Palace and would have become part of a processional way with its return route through Hyde Park and Constitution Hill. This would have vied most favourably with Nash's much vaunted Regent Street scheme, at least in respect of its circuitous and verdant nature.

The conversion of Buckingham House into the Palace had begun in 1821, created a need for new residential accommodation and gave the district an increased importance. Soon Belgravia became the scene of unprecedented building activities. Construction in Eaton Square seems to have begun about 1825. There were already some small houses (c.1819) at the eastern end, then Eaton Place. These were flanked by the new Church of St. Peter. It was next to these that Messrs. Cubitt began building. This was the No. 103 to 118 Block, built in the style of their Bloomsbury work, and still of modest Georgian character. The first of these new houses was occupied in 1829. Meanwhile, two other builders had commenced blocks on the south side.

Seth Smith starting at No. 27 and a Mr. Sutton at No. 50. The latter block is similar in design to Cubitt's first block, being brick faced but with engaged columns to the end houses. Seth Smith's centre south side block, although early in starting, was finally arrayed in the new "Stucco," as are all the remaining blocks. Cubitt's continued along the north side with the centre "palace style" block. The other south side block was commenced by Smith about 1838, before the completion of his centre block, and is still fairly refined. Cubitt's completed the Square, and here it is possible to trace the gradual decline of the Classical tradition. Thus the other north side terrace shows the Italianate influence, as does its neighbour at the end of the Square, while the south-west end houses are heavy with swags and enrichments associated with the early Victorian architecture. These last blocks were in existence by 1851.

Background to Conversion Scheme

These houses were built during the expanding economics of the early Victorian period, and one can visualize the family of top-hatted, coloured waistcoated and be-whiskered father, the mother in her crinoline, a host of descending offspring and, to support this family, anything up to a dozen servants. The expanding economy of Britain as the world's workshop, continued to support this kind of life throughout the remainder of the 19th century.

The first World War was a warning that the great days were over and a trend of restriction was commencing. However, Eaton Square was so popular and so convenient as a neighbourhood that in spite of the economic slump of the 1930s, it was still true that by 1939, 95 per cent of the houses were in single family occupation.

By the end of the 1939-45 war, the position was reversed and only five per cent were thus occupied. It was, therefore, obvious that a completely new assessment of the possible occupancies of the Square be devised.

At this stage the promoters, Messrs. Comonte Estates, Ltd., a firm of estate developers, approached the Duke of Westminster's London office with the suggestion of an overall reconstruction and conversion scheme into flats for the whole Square. This problem was already in the minds of the Duke's advisers, and it was agreed that a joint approach should be made to the subject, and, in 1945, architects were appointed to analyse the possibilities and implications of the scheme and make recommendations.

Planning Background

From a study of the commercial and residential trends in the West End of London, it soon became apparent that Belgravia was the last of the West Central residential areas that had not, up to date, been invaded by commerce. In spite of the L.C.C.'s express intention, after the War, to retain Mayfair as a residential area, the promoters were convinced that such a policy would prove impracticable. This being so, they were of the opinion that Belgravia must become the "new Mayfair." This has proved to be correct in the event that Mayfair has indeed become almost entirely a commercial area. A detail study of Belgravia revealed that, whereas the houses in Belgrave Square were altogether too large for conversion into flats, the majority of the houses in Eaton Square could be converted. A further assumption was, therefore, made that Belgrave Square would probably be used for Embassies, Institutes and the like and that Eaton Square would consequently be the focal point of the new residential quarter envisaged in Belgravia. Again, this forecast has proved to be correct.

From the above it will be seen that the promoters were confident when they started the scheme that their proposed development at Eaton Square was in the best possible

Part of Old Map which bears this title :

"Map showing the improvements now in progress in the West End of London, particularly in the Parish of St. George Hanover Square, describing their connection with the Parks, Buckingham Palace, Principal Public Places and buildings in the vicinity."



POST-WAR TRENDS OF OCCUPATION IN THE WEST END

White arrow:—Encroachment of Business into Mayfair

Grey arrow:—Exodus of residents from Mayfair in direction of Belgravia.

Black arrow:—Movement of Diplomatic world from St. James' Square to Belgrave Square.

location for the type of development they had in mind, i.e., first-class residential occupation.

At an early stage it was established that—

- (i) The conception of planning the whole of Eaton Square on an overall residential basis would be welcomed by the Planning Authorities.
- (ii) The Licensing Authorities would be willing to grant licences in excess of the normal recommended limit for conversions owing to the peculiar nature of the problems involved.
- (iii) The overall approach which was jointly taken by the Grosvenor Estate and the promoters represented the only method of saving the Square from being converted in a piece-meal manner, with a consequent deterioration in the occupancy not only in the square as a whole, but also to the adjacent residential areas of the Duke's Belgravia Estate.
- (iv) The large number of the owners of the existing leases with an average unexpired period of 15/25 years were unable, through increasing taxation and shortage of domestic help, to continue in providing occupation, and were therefore willing to co-operate in the conversion scheme.

Financial and Economic Policy

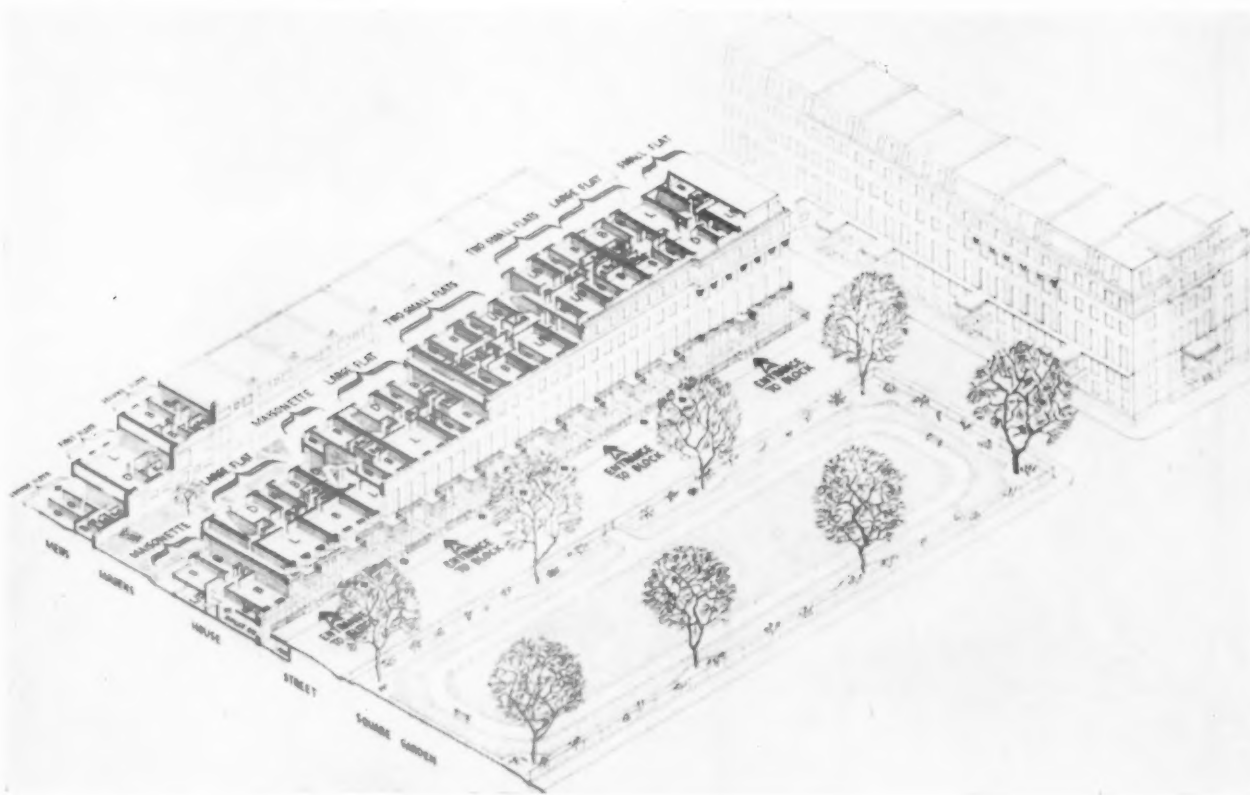
Having established these points it was decided by the Duke and the Promoters that it was in the public

South side of Eaton Square.

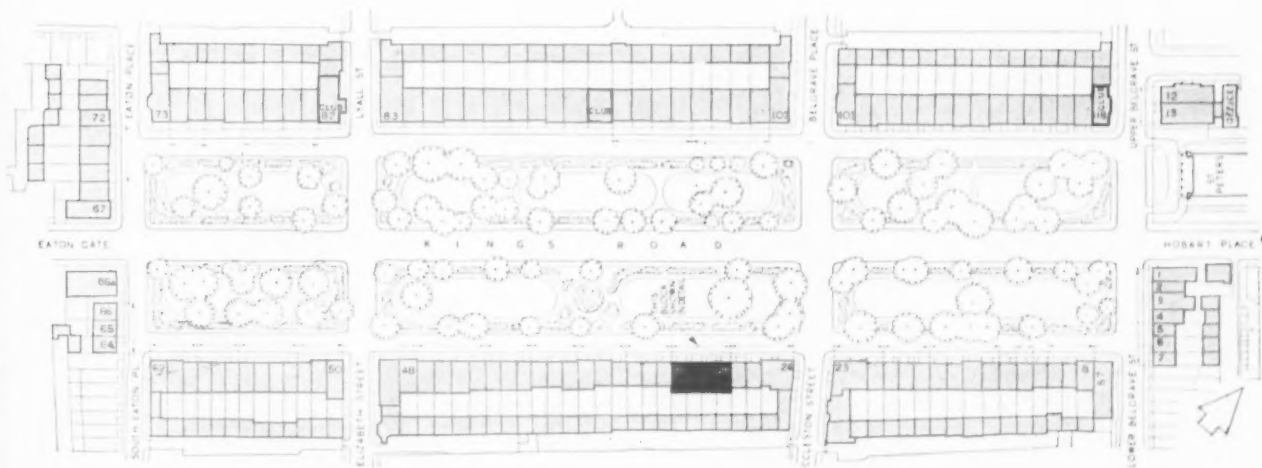


The Eaton Square garden.





Cutaway isometric showing typical conversion of houses.

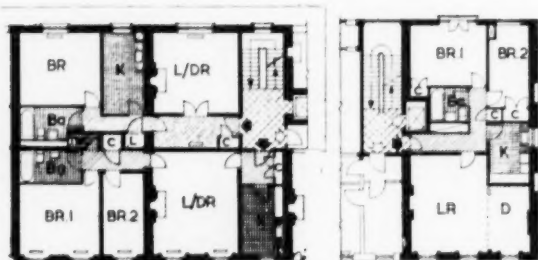
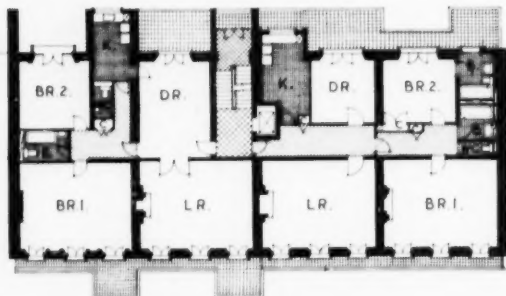
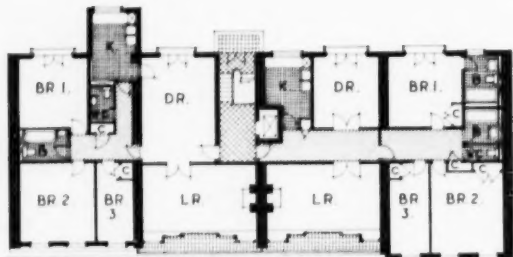


Block plan. Nos. 28-31 are shown in more detail on next page.

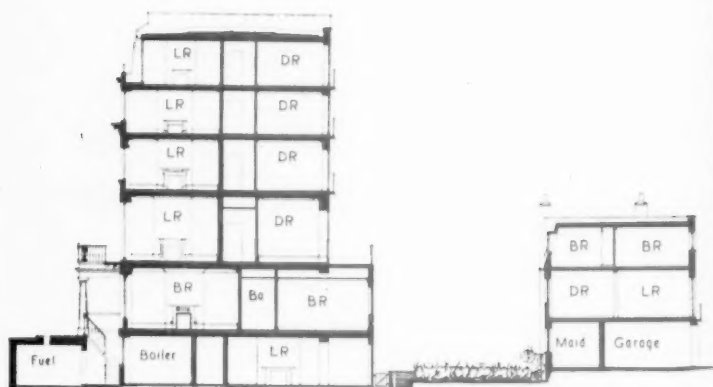
interest, and a potentially sound although not a highly lucrative proposition, to carry out the overall conversion of the Square, and that offers should be made to purchase the unexpired leases from the existing leaseholders, on the condition that outgoing leaseholders were given the right of first refusal to the new flats being provided. It was decided that the individual flats themselves should be planned in such a way as to be most suitable for the type of residential occupation foreseen as a result of the Planning Survey. This consideration led to the conclusion that a high proportion of

large flats should be provided to cater for those families who, before the War, lived in town houses but who, since the War, were now looking for family flats. A further consideration was the fact that past experience had shown that tenants of small flats are, by and large, a less stable element in the community structure than are the tenants of large family flats. In brief, the character of a family flat area differs radically from that of a small flat area and in Eaton Square the object of conversion is to maintain residential family occupation.

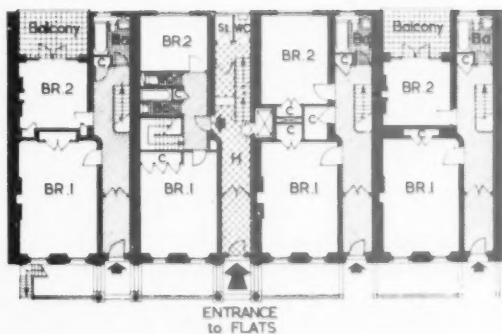
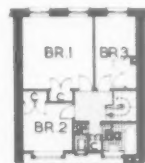
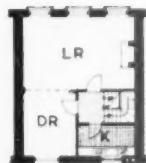
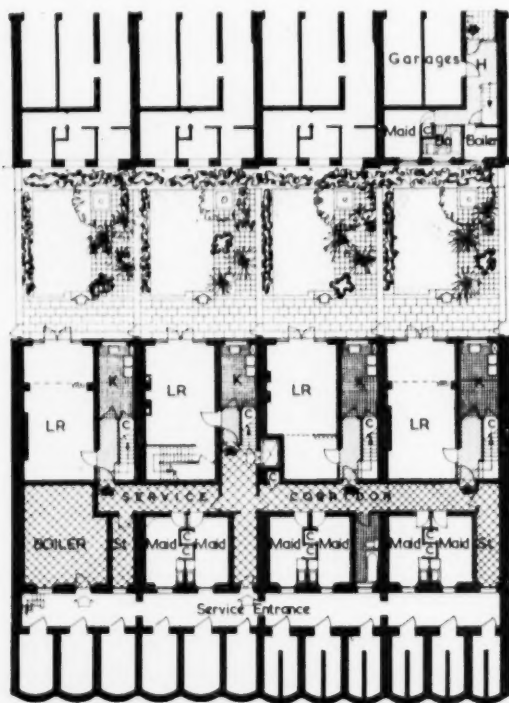
(Continued on p. 728)

Alternative small flats,
upper floorsPlan of one of the small
flats

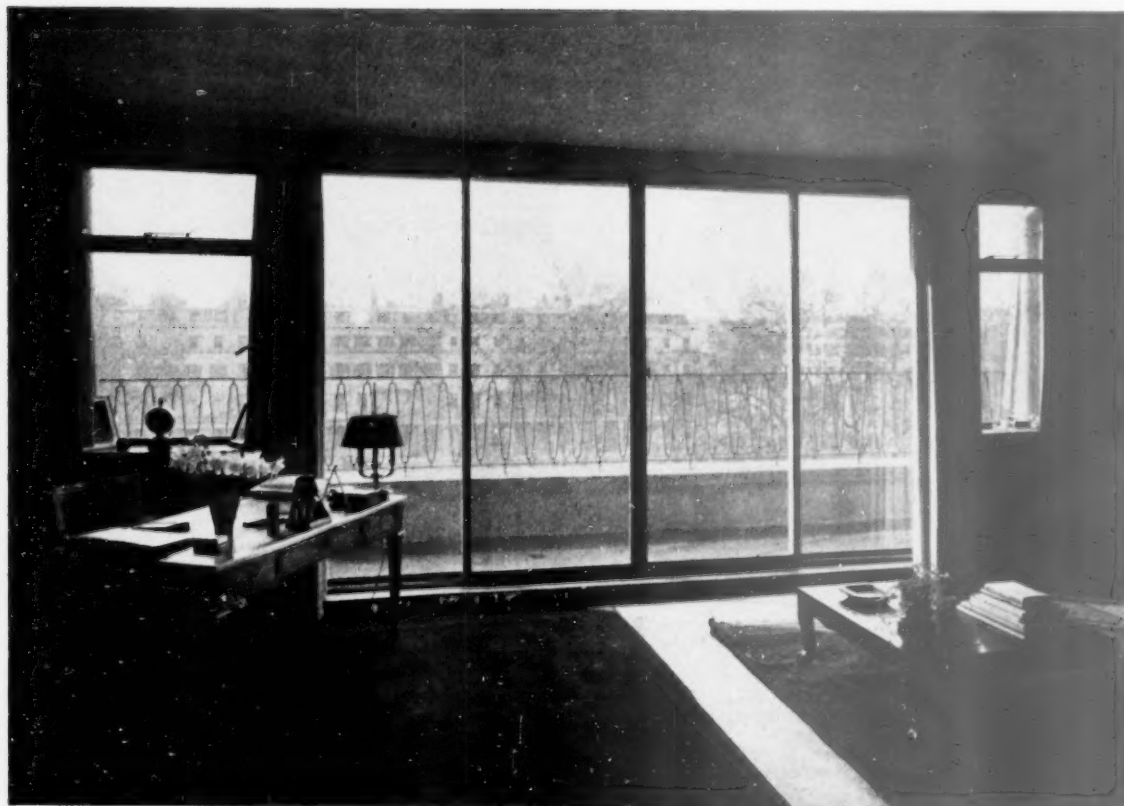
CONVERSION SCHEME FOR EATON SQUARE



Typical section through block Nos. 28-31, including mews



BLOCK 28-31, PLANS



Penthouse living room window-wall overlooking Square. Details are shown on the facing page.

Type and Size of Flats

These conclusions led to a policy of allocating half the proportion of the floor area in the Square to conversion into large flats and half into small flats. This allocation creates a density of 3.5 flats per house plus one mews dwelling, as against a proposed maximum L.C.C. permitted density of 4.5 flats per house plus one mews dwelling. The L.C.C. density is, however, based on working-class flat requirements and the density to which Eaton Square is being developed is considered to be the right one for the type of occupancy catered for.

In addition to the flats themselves, it was decided to provide specially fitted servants' rooms in the basements which could be let with the flats according to tenants' requirements.

Detail Flat Planning

A typical Eaton Square house consists of basement, ground floor, first, second and third floors and usually an attic floor in the roof. In addition, many of the small gardens or court-yards that had at one time existed at the rear of the houses (between the house and the mews) had been largely built over. It was decided that, if the basements were to be put to any profitable use, these later back additions would have to be pulled down. This policy was adopted in principle and the resulting space in the rear, being at basement level, could be formed into little private gardens thus allowing the back basement rooms to be used as habitable rooms. It was further found that a block of four houses was the ideal for conversion into one block. This latter point, coupled with the fact that only one entrance of the four houses would be needed to give access

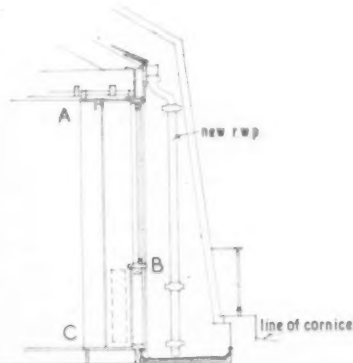
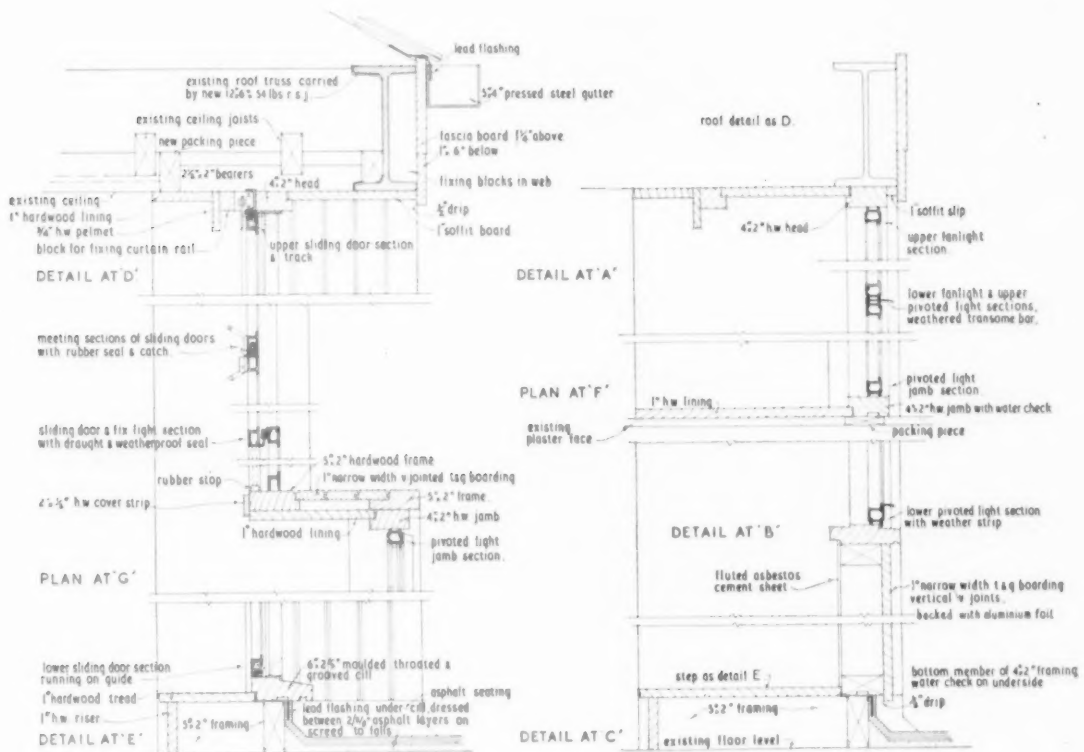
to the flats on the upper floors, led to the use of the remaining three front doors to give access to three maisonnettes on ground and basement floors, with living rooms and private gardens at basement level and bedrooms and bathrooms on the ground floor.

The flats on the first floor were treated as a special consideration owing to the particular character of the beautifully decorated large rooms on this floor and, generally speaking, the largest flats occur here with as little disturbance as possible of the big rooms. Second and third floors can be converted into either large or small flats as desired. The attic floors were again treated as a special problem as, in this case, windows were set back above cornice level and, consequently, big new sliding windows with balconies could be created without interfering with the main elevation of the Square. Pent-house flats were thus envisaged on this level and, with lift access, these have proved to be some of the most popular flats.

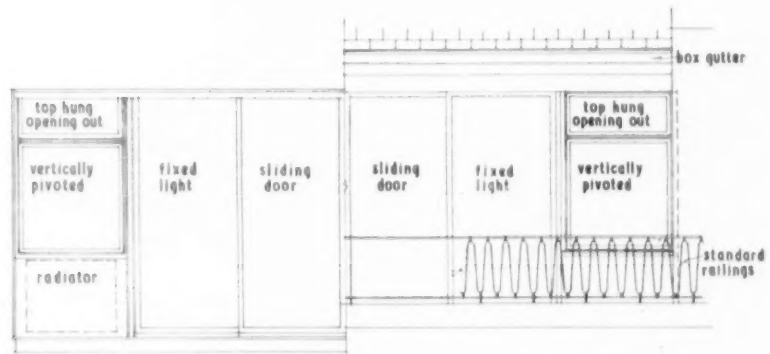
One of the principal problems has been the great depth of the houses as compared with their frontage. Consequently there is a large internal portion of the floor area which it is not easy to light once having been split up into small rooms. It was, therefore, decided to solve this problem by forming internal bathrooms backed on to an internal duct housing all the heating, hot water piping, waste pipes and the forced ventilation.

Mews Construction

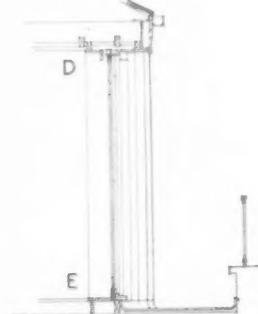
All the main houses of the Square have the usual rear mews premises which were in varying stages of continued use of lower grade and rent restricted occupation, through to a few higher quality mews cottage or flat adaptations.



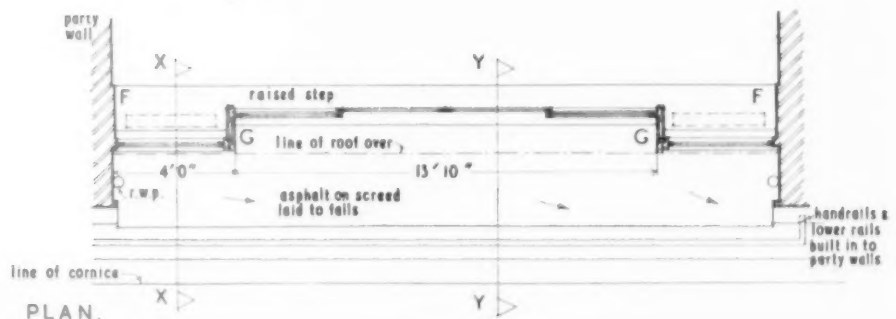
SECTION X-X



HALF INTERIOR ELEVATION. HALF EXTERIOR ELEVATION.



SECTION Y-Y

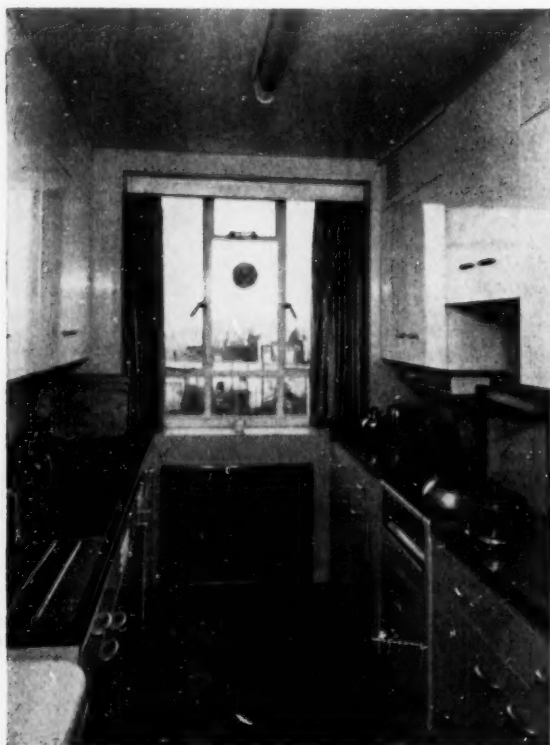


PLAN.



Entrance Hall, Nos. 28-31 Block. The existing stairs are retained, on the right of which can be seen the door to the new lift.

Typical Kitchen



It has been decided that the existing mews are not structurally sound or satisfactory enough to convert permanently and as mews properties become available to the Promoters they are proposing to rebuild these into a satisfactory form of permanent dwelling. This is possible by lowering the no longer necessary height of the old coach house and stables which will in future become partly entrance hall and partly garage, and this saving in height will allow an additional floor to be built, and the new mews properties will consist of an entrance hall with a ground floor servants room, and a cloakroom which is coupled with a servants bathroom, and on the first and second floors a maisonette with a large living and dining room, kitchen and three bedrooms and bathroom.

Gardens

The Square Gardens have been redeveloped and replanted on the lines of the original design and form an integral part of the whole conversion scheme. The eleven acres of garden represent the biggest open space of all the London squares.

Progress to Date

To date, about half the Square has been converted and, generally speaking, the programme has worked numerically round the Square commencing with 1 to 4 at the east end, running through the south side and up the west side with two of the higher numbers on the north side, namely, Nos. 74 and 75 converted. Conversion of the north side houses has already commenced.

Conversion Costs and Rentals

Conversion costs to date give an average figure of £2,250 per flat which compares with averages ranging from £2,000 to £2,500 per flat for Local Authority housing schemes and sums of over £3,000 per flat in private enterprise schemes built since the War. In return for this expenditure, flats of great character and charm are created and in all cases with living rooms and bedrooms of much greater size than can be provided in new building schemes. The cost of any luxury flats that might be built in the next half-century to give similar space and facilities would probably reach a figure of £4,000 to £5,000 per flat. When the scheme is completed, there will be some 300 flats.

Schedule

The form of building contract has been based on a schedule of prices prepared by Messrs. Davis, Belfield and Everest. This schedule is periodically revised and brought up to date. The advantage of this form of contract is that building operations can be started as soon as 1/4th-scale working drawings have been completed. The normal delay incurred during the completion of the details—preparation of Bills of Quantities, obtaining tenders and selecting builders—is therefore avoided. This amounts to a saving of six to nine months in the commencement of work, and consequently the flats can be let and rents collected this much earlier.

FOOTNOTES TO ILLUSTRATIONS IN THE HISTORICAL NOTES AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ARTICLE WHICH WERE COMPILED BY R. OWEN DAISH

1 If this Rocque map is compared with Horwood's earliest map of 1794, it will be seen that whereas the first only showed buildings along Knightsbridge, the northern limit of the Belgravia neighbourhood, on the latter is found Sloane Street forming a western boundary and also lined with terrace houses. The previously isolated hospital buildings along Grosvenor Place, running down the eastern side of the area, have been joined by residential buildings and there has been similar development on the old Chelsea Road, the southern extremity—now Buckingham Palace Road.

The existence of the Ebury Farm (later Avery Farm) and the very name "The Five Fields" seems to indicate that this particular



Typical dining room, upper floor flat, at the rear of block. The french windows are new.

**CONVERSION SCHEME:
EATON SQUARE**

**ARCHITECTS:
RAGLAN SQUIRE**

**CHIEF ASSISTANT:
R. OWEN DAISH**

**CONSULTING ENGINEERS:
R. TRAVERS MORGAN AND
PARTNERS**

**QUANTITY SURVEYORS:
DAVIS, BELFIELD AND EVEREST**



Penthouse living room.

First floor living room, showing retention of existing interior.



General Contractors:
Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd.
E. H. Burgess Ltd.

Electrical Installation:
T. Clarke & Co. Ltd.
Heating, Hot Water and Ventilation:
Norris Warming Co. Ltd.

Lifts:
Newbury & Thomas Ltd.

Paint (External):
Goodlass Wall & Co. Ltd.

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piece of land was of agricultural use and although adjacent to the Westbourne tributary and there was the undoubted existence of clay (a brickworks appears on Rocque's map) it was probably at the worst meadowy pasture. It has often been described as "swamp" but this seems more likely to refer to the other low-lying and more extensive Grosvenor Estate land extending down to the Thames where definite precautions against flooding were once in existence. Recent excavations under lift wells have shown the sub-soil to be dry, sandy gravel.

2. This print of the north side "Centre Elevation" is unfortunately undated and unsigned, but the inclusion of a centre pediment that was never constructed suggests that this was a design drawing. There is still no conclusive evidence as to who was responsible for the design of the Cubitt work. Mr. John Summerson outlining this work in "Georgian London" pp. 174-179, has suggested that it may have been Thomas Cubitt's younger brother Lewis.



Rear elevation before removal of excrescences.

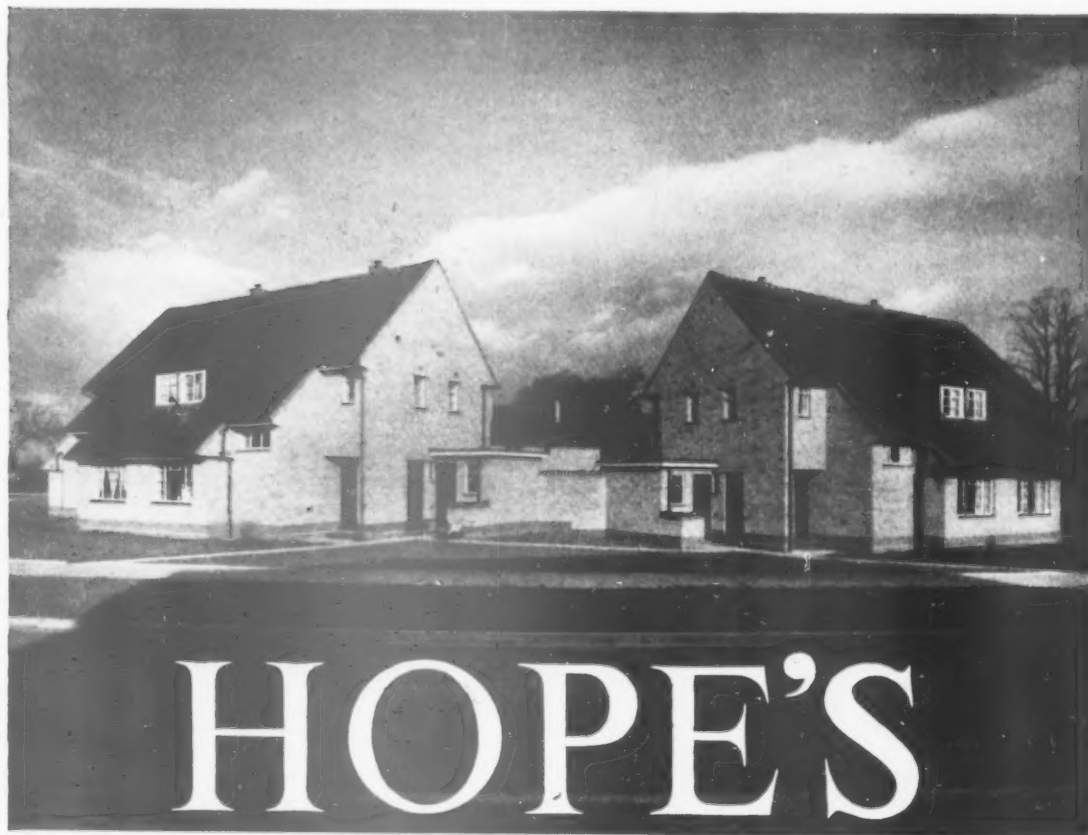


Typical treatment of back elevation showing increased fenestration.



Eaton Square : Private garden of maisonette, made possible by clearance.

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LIBRARY NOTES

Housing in Denmark Since 1930

By Esbjorn Hiort. Architectural Press. Price 21s.

"HOUSING in Denmark." The mere sound of it makes an instinctive impression of excellence, like watches from Switzerland, fashions from Paris, dollars from America. The book, without a trace of conceit, seems to accept this as a fact, modestly refrains from any further fuss or propaganda, and concentrates on telling us how these results have been achieved. "How" means the machinery of housing, its history, economics, techniques and this always tends to make dull reading.

We are perhaps too tired by the limiting machinery of our own housing to want to explore another country's. Irresponsibly we want instead to wallow in Danish photographs and plans, and there are plenty here though not nearly enough to wallow in. Incidentally, how difficult housing is to photograph well. To take a group of buildings from a distance means all earth and sky and a tiny bit of architecture, while from nearby it is all window details and no sense of the whole building—especially if the building happens to be flats.

Flats! It is a long time now since another Dane (Steen Eiler Rasmussen) begged us not to turn London into a city of flats like Copenhagen, and thus destroy its unique character. We are now doing just this, but if only it were being done *like* Copenhagen. This, I think, is Denmark's unique contribution to housing—human looking flats. They do not always avoid monotony but they never terrify or look like future slums. The balconies are enjoyed, not just provided, and they drip with real flowers and sprout giant artificial ones (the sunshades) like petunias.

And then the landscaping. Look at the photographs of Blidah, Bispeparken and Sondergaard, and then study the severe site plans or reverse the process and look at the plan on the pale grey dust jacket and see if you can recognize its regular forms in the photographs of Bredalsparken inside the book. The sites are all large and the long straight building blocks are parallel to give them all the same aspect. Here is logic and size, both perhaps enemies to domestic charm, but the photographs (and believe me, a visit to the spot) reassure us. The landscaping has done its work. It is, of course, not only the landscaping, the buildings themselves are human in scale, warm and clean in colour and beautifully made. But we do try to imitate the buildings here more often than the setting. Add the



Three examples from the recent exhibition of Danish Architecture at the Building Centre. Above: Flats at Bredalsparken, architect, Eske Kristensen. Top right: Housing by Knud Thorball. Bottom right: House at Sogaard by Hoff, Windinge & Galetius.

one to the other and you have civilization and dignity.

On account of these results it is worth studying their methods, the machinery which has produced these goods, even if, as hinted, this means some dull moments. The information is, as a matter of fact, well presented and brief, a skilful précis of a big achievement. The historical background includes inevitably the English bombardment of Copenhagen by Nelson which ruined Denmark for 30 years. (This had better be learnt here or you will certainly be embarrassed by it when you get to Kronberg.) Another fact which may surprise is that Danish housing is both built and administered by various private societies sanctioned by the Ministry. This saves scores of civil servants and avoids stagnation of ideas by competition between these private bodies. Another significant chapter on building technique shows that Danish construction is deep-rooted in traditional methods and that new experiments have been so far confined to the outer walls only. They are not stick-in-the-mud but "before rationalization can begin all the questions involved must be correlated and subjected to exhaustive research." Evidently they are not in love with prefabrication only for the sake of a new idea.

But while we can mostly admire and envy, there are some things we do better here. The inside W.C. is really not good and when, as on several plans, it has a window right into a bedroom (at the head of a bed), it becomes a disgrace. Staying in one flat where "it" opened off the kitchen, I was electrified, as I sat, to see a hand slowly enter the window from the kitchen and



silently grope for a milk bottle kept there.

Again, our space standards, shrunken as they are, are better. See those long, narrow bedrooms of theirs with beds toe to toe and less space beside the bed than the bed itself! Where does one keep clothes or, indeed, anything, or is a trailing plant the only other occupant of the space? These rooms are apparently officially not "rooms" at all (being under 10 square metres) but are called "chambers." One plan for a terrace house has a row of these chambers intended for children all down one side of the living room which, incidentally, has eight doors opening off it.

Seen in the flesh we succumb to it all, the furnishing, the plants, the coffee, the blondes, but back at home we can be more coldly critical. It is one of the virtues of this book that it allows us to inspect, to carp or to admire, without, as is the fashion of much current architectural publication, nudging us, prompting us, bludgeoning us, to do either. So one carps a little, but one admires enormously.

HERBERT TAYLER.

English Romanesque Sculpture, 1140-1210

By George Zarnecki. Alec Tiranti, 15s.

WHEN bringing out Dr. Zarnecki's book on English Romanesque sculpture between 1066 and 1140 the

publishers unfortunately gave no hint that a sequel would appear within two years. Now Dr. Zarnecki has continued his treatment of the whole subject of our Romanesque sculptural achievement, his terminal date in this case being about 1210. Some of his datings may seem a little late, and others, in the absence for the 12th century of reliable documentary pointers, a trifle over dogmatic, but in every other respect this admirably illustrated little work is a great improvement on what Dr. Zarnecki now calls Volume I of a unified pair (the map and index in the current work cover both volumes). The second volume is, indeed, considerably fuller than Volume I; fonts, for instance, now receive ampler justice, and the greater amount of available material allows of a larger and better photographic record. The text, like all the work done by members of the Warburg institute, further breaks down any insularity of approach that may still linger among students of what it must now appear unwise to call "Norman" building or carving. Dr. Zarnecki's tracing of the various overseas influences on our Romanesque sculpture is of special value—witness his linking of the western frieze sculptures at Lincoln to an Italian carver who had also, in all probability, worked for Abbot Suger at Saint Denis. He is also most instructive on the remarkable group of Romanesque carvings done within the confines of the mediaeval diocese of Hereford (Herefordshire, part of West Worcestershire, the Forest of Dean, and South Shropshire). He also brings out the strong kinship between Romanesque sculpture and contemporary illumination and other applied art. One historic blunder alone calls for comment. It is true that much evidence for this particular study disappeared with later rebuildings or at the Dissolution. But it is not true, except with the original Coventry Cathedral, that we have witnessed the destruction of the churches of the English Cathedral Priors. Even where, at Bath, one of these monastic cathedrals was completely rebuilt just before the Reformation, there were still some Romanesque survivals, including two important sculptured capitals unmentioned by Dr. Zarnecki.

BRYAN LITTLE.

Dry Rot and Other Timber Troubles

By Dr. W. P. K. Findlay. Hutchinson's Scientific and Technical Publications, London. Price 25s.

AS timber has become, and is likely to remain, a costly material, very much more care should be given to its correct use and especially to the avoidance of waste from fungal and insect attack. This book has been prepared by an author who is generally regarded as one of the foremost authorities on

fungal and insect attack of timber. The author is to be congratulated on placing before his readers a very great deal of scientific information on both the causes and the cures of the deterioration of timber in language which all can fully understand without difficulty.

The book is an admirable guide for the building industry to this troublesome subject, and readers in this field will find the vast amount of practical information contained in the long chapters on preservation, decay of timber in building, and decay in fibreboards, plywood and wood-wool, extremely valuable. The guidance on the recognition of the many troubles due to these causes is particularly worth a thorough digestion. Equally, there is excellent guidance for shipbuilders, farmers, gardeners, vehicle builders and packing-case makers.

The increase in dry rot and other timber troubles in recent years is now said to range between ten and twenty £million p.a., and if this is true, as well it may be, it justifies a very full study of the subject by all those responsible for using timber, and particularly those who erect and maintain buildings.

The volume is very well presented, has excellent illustrations, and is to be thoroughly recommended. P. C.

Gardens: The Things We See—No. 7

By Lady Allen of Hurtwood and Susan Jellicoe. Penguin Books. 5s.

LADY ALLEN, who was President of the I.L.A. from 1939-1946, and Mrs. Jellicoe, wife of another Past President of the Institute, are well qualified to write this book—a charming book. The authors introduce it with these words:—

"This is a picture book of gardens. It is an attempt to show how many different kinds of gardens there are, in what surprising places they may often be found, and how the makers of gardens have developed their ideas, whether they be professional landscape architects or people with green fingers who may have little more than a front area or a balcony to adorn."

Green fingers, unfortunately, often go with drab eyes. All the examples illustrated in this delightful little book, which include backyard window boxes, public open spaces, and even cemeteries appeal to the eye in different ways.

They are happy creations of plants, sticks and stones in which Nature is not forced but accepted as a gift to the artist, a source of endless variety subjected to the judgment of taste and sensibility. The day of regimented and over-formal gardens is drawing to a close. Horticultural skill and science now requires the help of artists in the best sense of that misused word to make the best out of the infinite re-

sources available. The landscape architect will probably reject the gigantic triple show bloom in favour of rhubarb or something equally unlikely, having in mind a different effect from the gardeners' garden, which is often more akin to the military parades of Frederick the Great than to a green thought in a green shade.

Now that the L.C.C. has shown the way so admirably, it behoves others to escape from the straight jacket of grubby shrubbery and tasteless salads of weird plants of ill-assorted colours, still to be seen in Royal and other parks.

The book also illustrates sculpture, garden furniture, bridges, paths and buildings nicely placed in gardens. In so many parks to-day are to be found "sacred cows" in the way of bad statuary, piddling fountains and coarse seats and notices, all of which have outlived their day and hang like an albatross round the neck of the plants and trees. Who wants to see these objects from childhood to old age? Banish riders on horseback symbolizing Energy, and Italian peasant girls with water pots dribbling, and let's have something new and beautiful even if Scandinavian in inspiration.

There is in the book a section on children's play space, and rightly so. The selfishness of adults in this respect is a reproach. Acres and acres can be found for allotments, tennis courts and bowling greens. The needs of children are hardly met at all. The poor show our cricketers are now making against the Australians probably comes from the lack of bits of grass for kids to play cricket on. And the widespread hooliganism and destruction of plants and flowers is almost certainly due to anti-social feeling derived from the lack of play space among other factors. Let us have more waste material playgrounds like the one at Emdrup, Copenhagen, illustrated on page 46 of "Gardens." "Keep on the Grass" should be our motto. It is to be hoped that the price of 5s does not limit the circulation of the book to those who are already converted.

The Life of Sir Edward Lutyens

By Christopher Hussey. Country Life, Ltd. 42s. 626 pp. 96 plates.

THIS volume originally appeared as one of the four Lutyens Memorial volumes, and was reviewed in this journal of 9 February, 1951. *Country Life* now gives us the biography as a separate volume, a great opportunity for those who were unable to obtain or afford the memorial set. In addition to the plates, there are a large number of the famous thumb-nail sketches scattered through the text. The publishers are to be thanked for making available Mr. Hussey's outstanding work at such a reasonable price.

(Continued on page 735)



A Window in Kensington

BY EDWIN LA DELL

There are also in Kensington many modern blocks of flats, offices, and other buildings, in which Crittall Windows have more than outweighed regret for the charm of the old by what they have brought in efficiency and comfort to the new.

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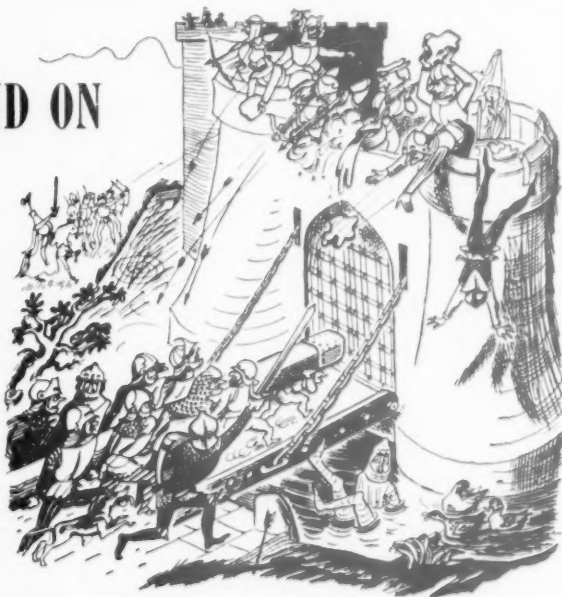
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An American in Europe. The Life of Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford

By Egon Larsen. Published by
Messrs. Rider. 15s.

THIS is a special publication to coincide with the bicentenary this year of the birth of Benjamin Thompson, founder of the Royal Institution, one of the greatest minds that America has produced, as President Franklin Roosevelt believed, and a highly original man of genius as Sir Eric Rieidal describes him in a foreword.

The story of Benjamin Thompson's life (1753-1814) told in this book is remarkable and fascinating. His public life as Under-Secretary in Lord North's Government, as Minister of War and Police in Bavaria (it was for his services in Bavaria that he gained his title) and research scientist in London, Munich and Paris, was prolonged and fruitful.

As a scientist his major contribution was as creator of the modern theory of heat. He made the first determination of the mechanical equivalent of heat. He was a pioneer of domestic science.

He had great success with the fuel-saving, non-smoking stoves, ranges and roasters he developed. His stove became all the rage and to-day the vast majority of fireplaces in England are still "Rumford Stoves." He made a special point of taking no patent for the invention. In one of his essays, Rumford anticipates the Smoke Abatement Society. Writing in 1796 he said, "The enormous waste of fuel in London may be estimated by the vast dark cloud which continually hangs over this great metropolis, and frequently overshadows the whole country, far and wide; for this dense cloud is certainly composed almost entirely of unconsumed coal. . . . I never view from a distance, as I come into town, this black cloud which hangs over London without wishing to be able to compute the immense number of cauldrons of coal of which it is composed; for could this be ascertained, I am persuaded so striking a fact would awaken the curiosity and excite the astonishment of all ranks of the inhabitants, and perhaps turn their minds to an object of economy to which they have hitherto paid little attention."

In Brompton Row he built the first house to have been designed by an expert on domestic science and he showed sightseers round with pride. A full description by the Swiss Prof. Pictet, written in 1801, praises the ingenuity, warmth, comfort and convenience he found. In Bavaria he created the famous "English Garden" at Munich, by converting a wild marshy stretch by the River Tsar, using the labour of a corps of the Bavarian Army. He was the first social reformer to abolish beggary by his schemes of

voluntary employment, which cleared the streets of Munich of crowds of beggars.

This first popular biography of Rumford is well illustrated and the account of his domestic life enlivened by extracts from the diary of his daughter. One is left deeply impressed by his gifts and achievements.

The Architecture of Baltimore.

A Pictorial History. By Richard H. Howland and Eleanor P. Spencer. Johns Hopkins Press (Oxford University Press, 60s).

DEVELOPED from the catalogue of an exhibition of the city's architecture, local architects and public-spirited citizens and institutions have produced an exemplary volume, well illustrated and with a brief, explicit text. Baltimore was not founded till 1729; rapid growth and several disastrous fires have destroyed much early work, and many of the excellent buildings illustrated have, alas, vanished. The earliest building extant is a charming country house of 1764, and there are a few other late eighteenth-century examples in brick. Blue, white and yellow frame houses with those of brick, also painted, must have made Baltimore a gay town in its early days. As late as 1831 a church was painted bright red with a brilliant yellow steeple.

Prosperity in the first quarter of the nineteenth century is reflected in an outcrop of good professional neo-classic architecture. The chief exponents were the Frenchman Godefroy and the British Latrobe. The former was the first professor of architecture in an American university. The classic tradition, mingled with the inevitable Gothic essays, was vigorous till the 'forties. After this date the architecture followed its universal eclectic course. There is little in Baltimore in the "Victorian" period to distinguish it from other American cities. Early experiments in cast-iron façades of five storeys, the first 1851, are of interest. A bold Romanesque church of 1882 by Stanford White and a fine railway station of 1896 stand out in the jungle; both are in granite and are influenced by Richardson.

In his introduction Professor Hitchcock says: "To record is not to save, but it is somewhat easier to save what has been sympathetically recorded. This book should make Baltimoreans more aware of their inherited treasures, not all of which have had in the twentieth century the public esteem they so well deserve. Above all, the publication may help to make a wider group realize that the architectural integrity of our cities does not depend on the preservation and maintenance of a few certified 'masterpieces.'" For Baltimorean read Mancunian, Salopian or Glaswegian, and the value of this book to us is apparent. Is there any reason

why the architects, the learned societies and the rich firms of British cities should not follow the example of Baltimore and produce volumes of equal value?

G. H.

Royal Homes

By Gordon Nares. Published by
Country Life, Ltd. 18s.

THIS book, which consists chiefly of photographs, illustrates with a short written description seven Royal Palaces. The greater part is devoted to Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle, but considerable space has also been given to St. James Palace, with some excellent photographs of its little-known interior, and Holyrood House, which is the official Royal residence in Scotland.

Balmoral, Sandringham and Clarence House are also illustrated, but with only comparatively few photographs, as the author considers that these are private houses, and as such should be entitled to retain their privacy.

All the photographs are good—as one expects from these publishers—and one of the most interesting is the approach to the Royal Balcony at Buckingham Palace. It shows the vista down the Mall to the Admiralty Arch, as it is seen by the Royal Family when they step on to the balcony on State occasions.

Electricity Tariff Handbook

Compiled for *Electrical Review* with the advice and assistance of V. A. H. Clements, M.I.E.E. Published by Electrical Review Publications, Ltd., and distributed by Iliffe & Sons Ltd. 7s 6d (postage 3d).

THIS reference book, compiled with the advice and assistance of the Assistant Commercial Manager of the British Electricity Authority, gives full details of the standard tariffs in operation in England, Scotland and Wales by the various Area Electricity Boards. The classes of tariff shown are: Domestic, Commercial (Block type and Maximum Demand type), Industrial (Block type and Maximum Demand type), Farm and Miscellaneous. For ease of reference, a tabular summary of each class is provided. The B.E.A. bulk supply tariff is also shown, and other information given includes names and addresses of Chief Commercial Officers of the Area Boards, definitions of the official terms and classifications used, and tables showing national electricity sales and revenue for 1951-52. All the information given in the book is authoritative and completely up to date. The Handbook fulfils a long-felt need for such information in a handy form; it will be invaluable to all concerned with sales of electricity, and also to large numbers of consumers.

Drawing Office Practice

I HAVE just received a copy of the revision of B.S.1192 "Drawing Office Practice for Architects and Builders." While in general the book looks very much like the previous edition, except that the colour tabs are no longer included, there are, in fact, quite considerable changes and improvements in the detail drafting of the recommendations. I am not really happy that the full title has been changed to read "British Standard Recommendations for Drawing Office Practice" as I cannot see why it should not be "Standards for Drawing Office Practice" without the insertion of the word "recommendations"; nor do I like the final paragraph of the Foreword, which tends to play-down the importance of having a truly standard drawing practice for working drawings. I feel sure that many in the architectural profession still do not appreciate the saving in time and trouble of those who have to use the drawings which standard drawing practice produces; too often have I heard complaints from contractors and sub-contractors that they have to keep staff solely for the purpose of translating architects' drawings which should not be necessary as the architects are paid to make proper drawings. This new document does not stress, as it should, in the Foreword the importance of standardized working drawing practice as an aid to better and quicker building, nor does it say, as again it should, that the recommendations in B.S.1192 are intended to apply only to working drawings. I have a fear that some of the members of the committee responsible for the drafting of the standard must have been too frightened of their professional colleagues to allow the B.S. to say "all normal working drawings should comply, as far as possible, with these recommendations."

The clauses on sizes of drawings seem to remain unchanged, but there have been minor changes to the clause on thicknesses and types of lines; the addition in the section line diagram is helpful but is it to be assumed that there is never a need to show overhead lines as this indication has been removed? The general tidying up of the clauses on dimensions and lettering is good but I believe it might have been helpful to have included, possibly as an appendix, some suggestions for suitable types of lettering for working drawings as an aid to teachers in technical schools and for guidance of those users of the B.S. who are not architects.

In the paragraph dealing with scales I am pleased to see that 1/1250 or 104.17 feet to 1 inch is dropped and the "=" sign is correctly replaced by the word "to." I am very glad to see also that the 3/4 in scale, so beloved by engineers but hated by the whole building industry, has been entirely eliminated.

On the subject of projection, or the relationship of plan and elevations on

drawings, it seems to me that we ought to attempt to reach agreement with the American and Commonwealth countries on an acceptable system to be used by all; at the same time we should agree where on drawings it is most desirable to place sections in relation to plans and elevations as this has not even been attempted in this revision.

I still do not like the system of showing the position of hinging of windows, although I appreciate it is generally accepted in several industries, as it seems to me the precise reverse of the obvious.

The remainder of the graphical symbols have benefited by the general overhaul, extension, and, particularly, by the rearranged and more logical grouping. I am surprised, however, that no welding symbols are included nor structural symbols for materials other than rolled steel such as steel tubes, aluminium, concrete and timber.

The types of lines shown for indication of plumbing, drainage, water, gas and similar services are adequate for normal architects' working drawings, but I feel it would have been advantageous to have supplemented this information with more detailed methods to be used on the specialist drawings of each trade as it is in these fields that confusion is so often experienced and explanations have to be added on each drawing which is wasteful of drawing office time.

I notice that the extracts from the Ordnance Survey Conventional Signs have been eliminated, which is a reasonable step as they have little bearing on architects' or builders' drawings.

The symbols to be used to indicate materials have been enormously expanded in a most acceptable manner. There has always been difficulty in deciding how to show the various agreed hatchings on drawings of different scales, but this seems now to have been solved in a very satisfactory manner. I am not sure that I prefer the use of words to describe the colours to be used without some colour indication of their weight and shade as these only give limited guidance to the less knowledgeable, nor is the selection of approximately the same colour in pencils so easy without a guide; perhaps the giving of two or even four colour tabs (water colour and pencil for both section and elevation) might have made the publication too costly as colour printing is certainly expensive and accounts for the omission.

In regard to the typical title panels for drawings I doubt that the revision shows any improvement, in spite of the changes, as the same essential information, such as the scale of the drawing, may be in different places. I would suggest that the firm's telephone number is sufficiently important to merit a note that it should be included.

The two large scale details should serve as an excellent guide as to how

drawings of this type should be prepared as they are good straightforward drawings setting a level of draughtsmanship which all should be able to achieve; they are a very valuable addition. The smaller scale drawing showing the number of plan units is a great improvement on the similar figure in the previous edition.

I am glad the committee has retained the diagram on the folding drawings for filing and postage. I only wish more people would adopt this method more generally when transmitting drawings through the post.

It is very regrettable that the committee did not see its way to list the now numerous B.S. covering drawing materials and instruments as it would be helpful to those with less experience. There are notes on the selection of drawing papers and tracing cloth but they do not mention the appropriate B.S. nor is there any mention of the subject of selection of drawing instruments, pencils or drawing inks, all of which can aid greatly the preparation of good drawings.

The notes on reproduction of drawings are helpful; it would have been useful to have included similar notes on the methods of storage of drawings which so often leave much to be desired and is a frequent cause of later poor reproduction of copies.

Standard methods of recording or registering drawings in offices would also have been a useful addition to the paragraph on the numbering of drawings.

I should like to suggest that the responsible committee adds, as soon as possible, diagrams similar to Figs. 16 and 17, which cover the numbering of stanchions and the marking of plans when steelwork is used, to cover timber and reinforced concrete structures as, in practice, the methods used appear to vary.

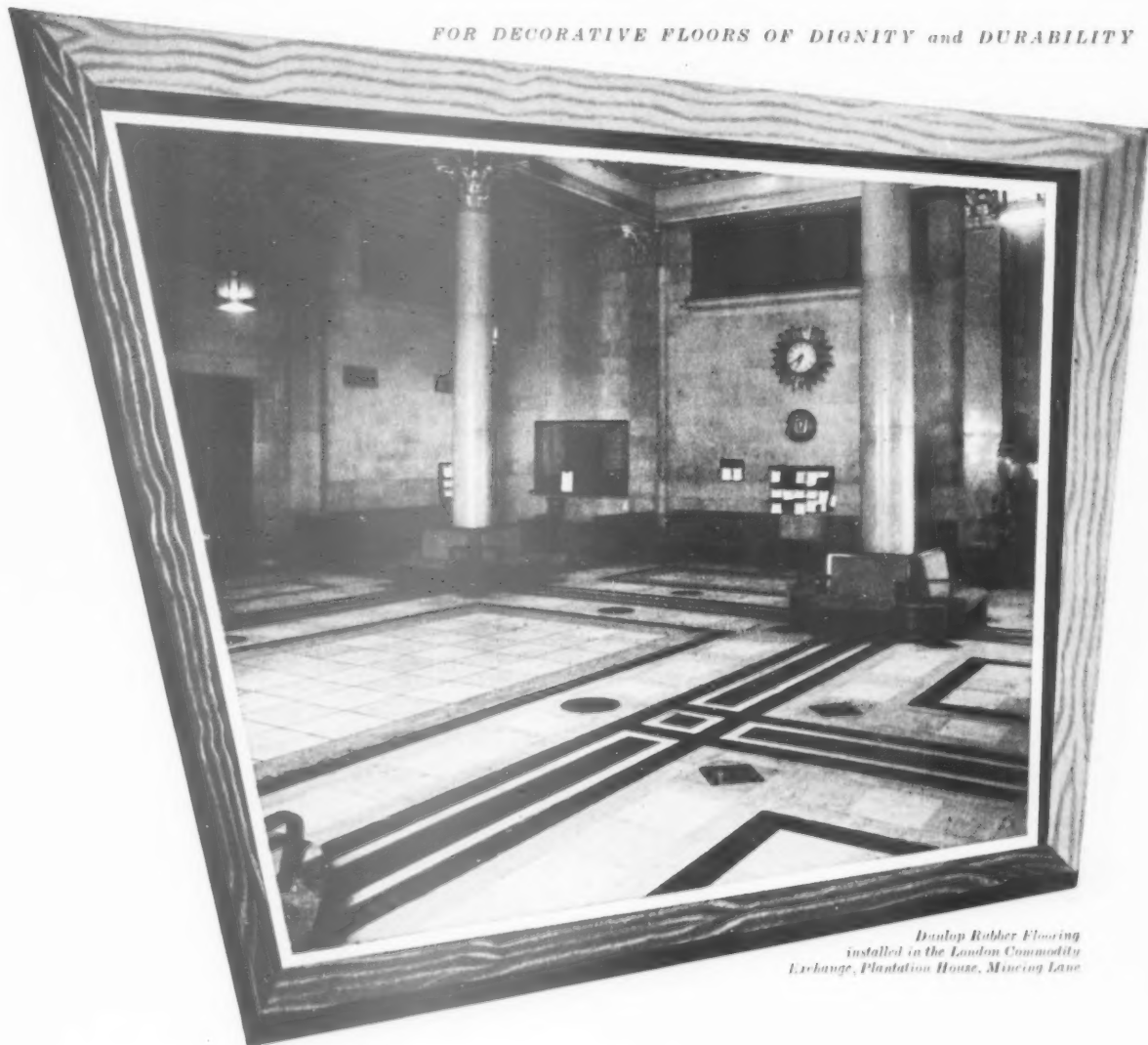
Now that this revision, stated to have been sponsored by the M.O.W. and the R.I.B.A., is issued it is to be hoped that it will be adopted much more generally than its predecessor throughout the building industry under the leadership of the architectural profession.

DUTCH UNCLE

The Truscon Travelling Scholarship for the Study of Reinforced Concrete Construction

The Travelling Scholarship offered by The Trussed Concrete Steel Co., Ltd., details of which were given in the April 16 issue of the ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS has been awarded to Mr. G. Graham, Dip.Arch., A.R.I.B.A. of Nottingham. Mr. Graham will be accompanied by Mr. P. B. Wood, B.Sc.Tech., of the Company's staff, to whom a similar Scholarship has been awarded.

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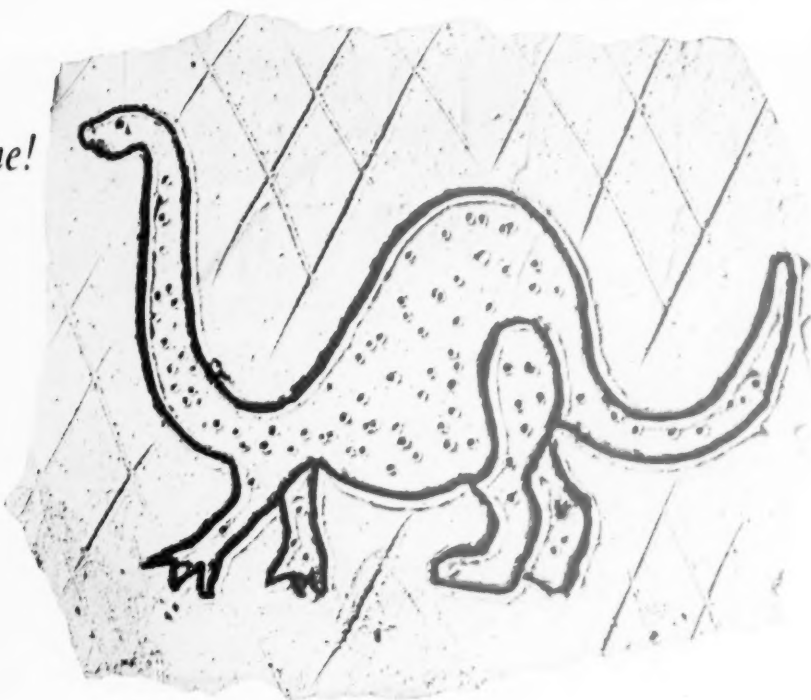
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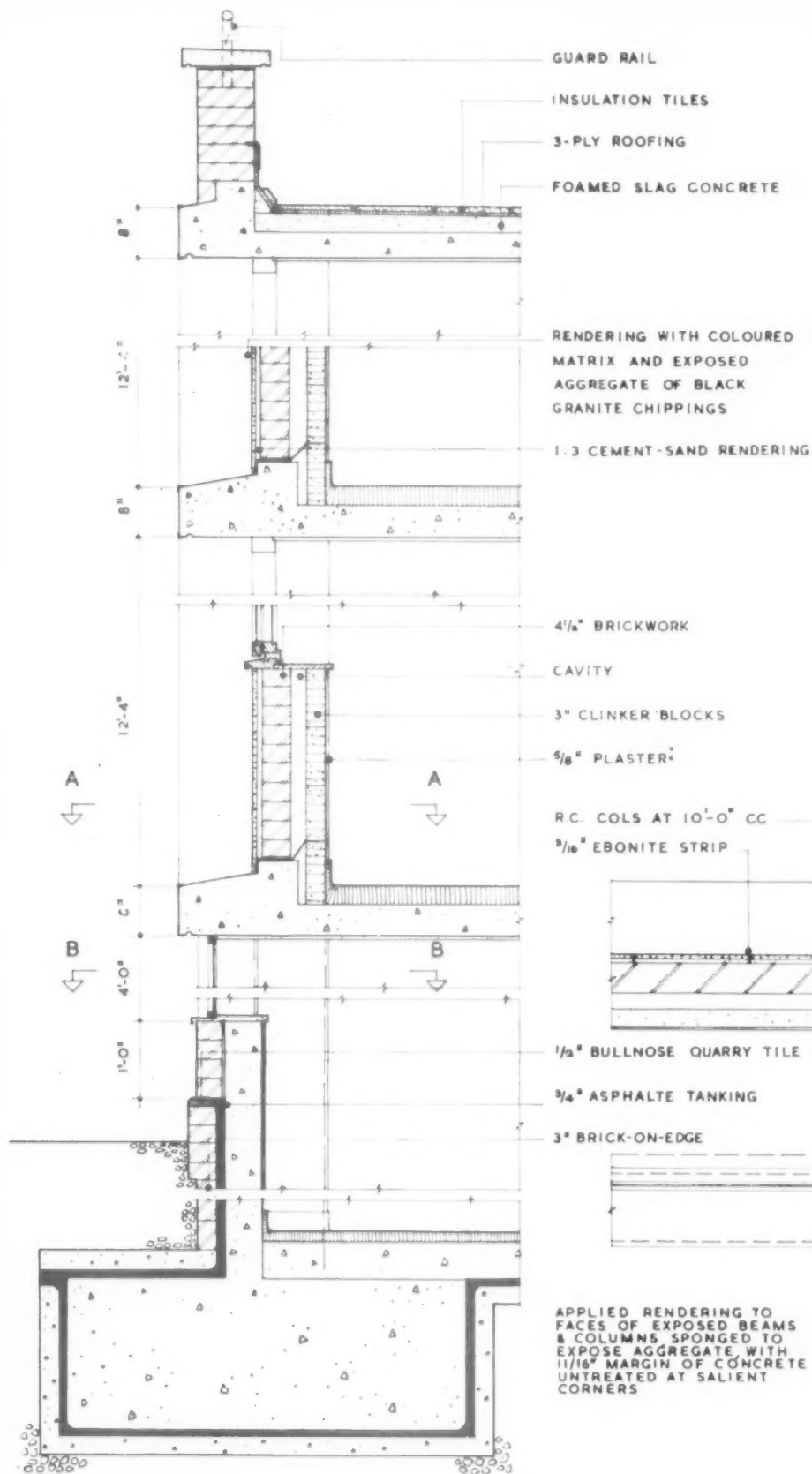
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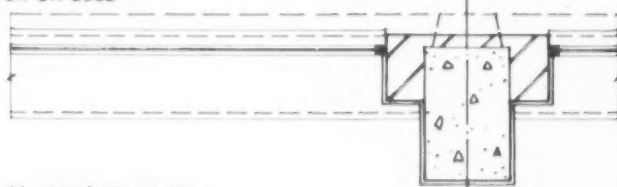


TYPICAL BAY

SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"

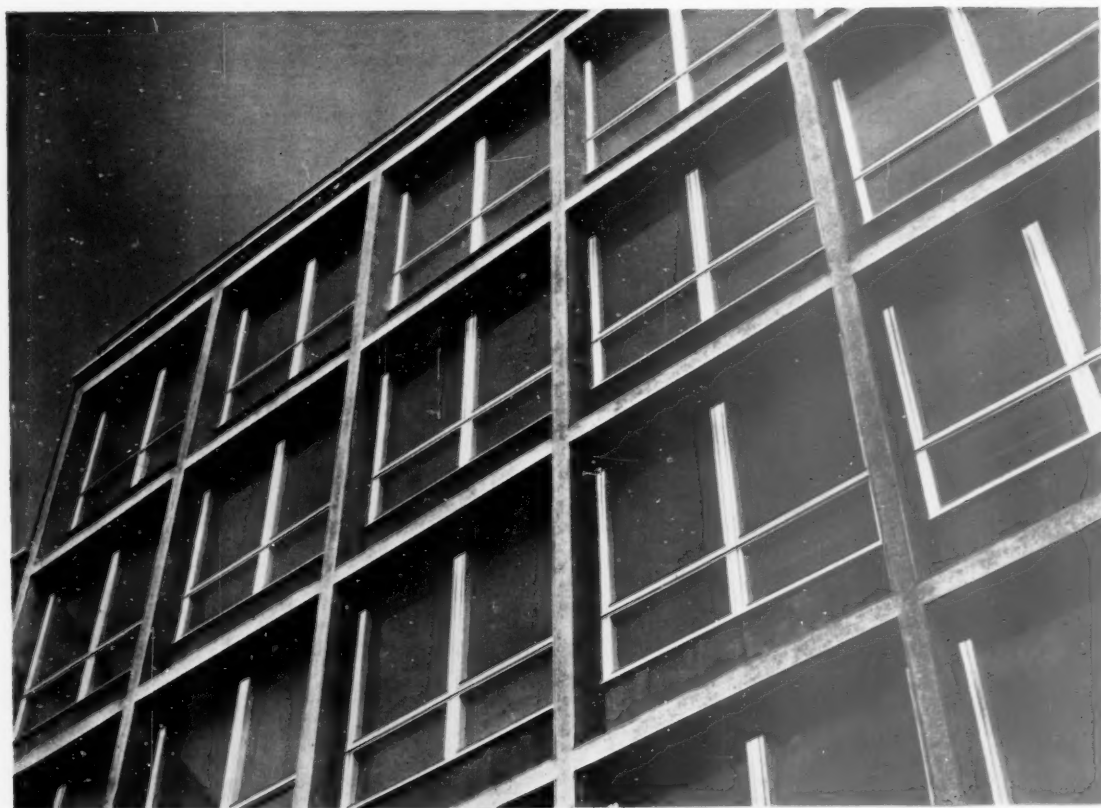


PLAN AT AA



PLAN AT BB

SCALE FOR DETAILS: 1" = 2'-0"



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AMPTHILL R.C. (a) 6 bungalows and 3 houses at Woburn. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, 12, Dunstable Street. (d) June 30.

ASHINGTON U.C. (a) 80 houses at Darnley Road. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) June 29.

BASINGSTOKE B.C. (a) 7 aged persons' dwellings, South Ham site. (b) Borough Architect, Municipal Buildings. (c) 2gns.

BIRMINGHAM C.C. (a) (Contract 283) 6 flats at Windsor Road, Sturchley; (Contract 295) 7 houses at Horrell Road, Sheldon; (Contract 305) 4 flats at Franklin Road, Kings Norton; (Contract 311A) 3 houses at the Rednal House Estate. (b) City Engineer, Civic Centre, 1. (c) 2gns each contract. (d) June 22.

BROMLEY B.C. (a) 9 flats, Longfield site, London Road. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Offices, with details of similar schemes undertaken and names of two referees. (c) 2gns. (d) June 22.

BROMSGROVE U.C. (a) 20 houses, Chardford Estate. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council House. (c) 3gns. (e) July 8.

CARLISLE C.C. (a) 8 shops and flats at Harraby. (b) City Surveyor, 18, Fisher Street. (c) 2gns. (e) July 4.

CLARE R.C. (a) 6 bungalows at Kedington. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Stonehall, Clare, Sudbury, Suffolk. (c) 2gns. (e) July 3.

DEWSBURY B.C. (a) Alterations, additions, etc., to the second class bath at the Public Baths, Old Westgate. (b) Borough Architect, Town Hall. (c) July 1.

EAST RIDING C.C. (a) Primary school at Leconfield, near Beverley. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Beverley. £2. (c) July 3.

EAST SUFFOLK C.C. (a) (1) 2 flats for midwives at Mendlesham and (2) 2 flats for midwives at Hollesley. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Ipswich. (c) 2gns each scheme. (d) June 22. (e) July 8.

GOLBORNE U.C. (a) 32 houses and 10 bungalows at Culcheth. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, Lowton, near Warrington. (c) 5gns. (e) July 4.

HIGH WYCOMBE B.C. (a) 106 dwellings, Hatters Farm Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Offices. (c) 2gns. (e) July 3.

KINGSBRIDGE R.C. (a) 3 pairs of bungalows; 3 pairs of houses and 1 block of 5 houses, Stoke Fleming. (b) C. Webber, Manor House. (c) 2gns cheque payable to Council. (d) June 22.

address it is the same as the locality given in the heading, (c) deposit, (d) last date for application, (e) last date and time for submission of tenders. Full details of contracts marked ★ are given in the advertisement section.

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LINCOLN C.C. (a) 3 cottages at Greetwellgate. (b) City Architect, Stamp End. (c) 2gns. (e) July 20.

LONDON—ACTON B.C. (a) 12 lock-up garages at the Vale Estate, W.3. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall, W.3. (c) June 26.

LONDON—CHINGFORD B.C. (a) 24 houses at Gommers Farm. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall, E.4. (c) 2gns. (e) July 1. See page 30.

LONDON—DEPTFORD B.C. (a) 3 houses and 4 flats, Napier Street, S.E.8. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall, New Cross, S.E.14. (c) 2gns. (e) July 1.

LONDON—ISLINGTON B.C. (a) 70 dwellings in 1 ten-storey block, 1 five-storey block and 1 four-storey block, Mildmay Centre site, Newington Green Road, N.1. (b) Town Clerk, Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, N.1., with references of ability to undertake reinforced concrete work in tall buildings. (c) 3gns. (d) June 25. (e) Aug. 12.

LONDON—MERTON AND MORDEN U.C. (a) Block of 12 flats at West Barnes Lane. (b) Council's Clerk, Morden Hall, S.W.19. (c) 3gns. (d) June 29. (e) July 24.

NORTON R.C. (a) (1) 4 houses at Langton and (2) 2 houses at Westow. (b) Council's Architect; Council Offices, Welham Road, Norton, Malton; stating sites. (c) 1gn each site. (e) June 29.

NOTTINGHAM C.C. (a) General repairs to the Castle Museum and grounds. (b) City Engineer, Guildhall. (c) £2. (e) June 30.

PICKERING R.C. (a) 2 houses at Middleton and 2 houses at Normanby. (b) Council Offices, 20, Eastgate. (c) 2gns. (e) June 27.

PLYMPTON ST. MARY R.C. (a) 9 houses and 1 shop with living accommodation at Woodford, Plympton St. Mary. (b) Council's Clerk, Council Offices. (c) 2gns. (e) July 2.

ROYTON U.C. (a) 2 houses at Park Street. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) July 3.

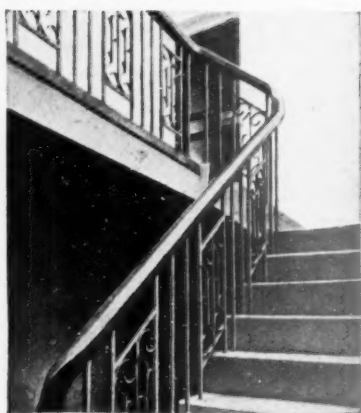
SADDLEWORTH U.C. (a) 104 permanent dwelling houses and 12 flats, Carr Barn Estate. (b) Messrs. Howard and Benson, Greenfield, 88, Mosley Street, Manchester 2. (c) 2gns cheques payable to Council. (e) July 6. See page 30.

SAFFRON WALDEN B.C. (a) (1) 6 pairs of houses and (2) road and site works at Little Walden and (3) 5 pairs of houses and (4) road and site works at Swards End. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Offices. (c) 2gns each scheme. (e) July 22.

SAFFRON WALDEN R.C. (a) 6 bungalows at Quendon and Rickling, Essex. (b) Council's Clerk, Council Offices, Debden Road. (e) July 4.

SCOTLAND—TAYPORT B.C. (a) 28 houses at Cupar Road (all or separate trades). (b) Messrs. James Gentles and Son, Central Chambers, Kirkcaldy. (c) June 26.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA B.C. (a) 4 garages at the Industrial Estate. (b) Borough Architect, Municipal Buildings, Clarence Road. (c) £2. (e) June 30.



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SHERBORNE U.C. (a) 30 houses at Harbour Road with roads, sewers, drains, etc. (b) Messrs. Pether Warren and Roydon Cooper, The Old Oxford Inn, West Hendford, Yeovil. (e) £5. (e) July 8.

SOUTH SHIELDS B.C. (a) 6 garages at Thornholme Avenue, South Shields. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) June 29.

STROOD R.C. (a) 148 houses, Bells Lane, Hoo. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, Frindsbury Hill. (c) 5gns. (e) July 15.

TRENT RIVER BOARD. (a) Pollution and fisheries laboratories and caretaker's flat at Meadow Lane, Nottingham. (b) Board's Clerk, 206, Derby Road, Nottingham. (c) £5. (e) July 13.

WALSALL B.C. (a) Block of 4 maisonnettes at Bath Street. (b) Borough Engineer, Council House. (c) 2gns. (e) July 3.

WORSLEY U.C. (a) 16 aged persons' dwellings, 2 club rooms and Warden's house at the Jackson Fold site, Bolton Road, Walkden. (b) Council's Clerk, Town Hall, Walkden, Manchester. (c) 2gns.

PLACED

Notes on contracts placed state locality and authority in bold type with (1) type of work, (2) site, (3) name of contractor and address, (4) amount of tender or estimate. † denotes that work may not start pending final acceptance, or obtaining of licence, or modification of tenders, etc.

FELTHAM U.D.C. (1) 515 dwellings, roads and sewerage. (2) Sparrow Farm Estate. (3) The Bunting Construction Co., Ltd., 73, Acre Lane, London, S.W.2. (4) £850,000.

THURROCK U.D.C. (1) Redevelopment providing 113 dwellings, 26 shops. (2) Tilbury. (3) Richard Costain, Ltd., Dolphin Square, London, S.W.1. (4) £379,722.

SHEFFIELD CORPORATION. (1) Housing contracts. (2) Hackenthorpe and Manor Park Estates. (3) J. F. Finnegan (Sheffield), Ltd., £169,547; F. Ridal and Sons (Builders), Ltd., £76,449; J. M. Sevel, Ltd., £89,799; T. V. Simpson, £68,925; Wm. Memory and Sons, Ltd., £54,315; C. L. Marcroft, Ltd., £53,897; Reeves Charlesworth, Ltd., £54,598; W. Redmile and Sons, Ltd., £51,293; M. J. Gleeson, Ltd., £48,675. All of Sheffield.

SOUTH SHIELDS B.C. (1) 529 houses, shops, etc. (2) Simonside Estate. (3) Myton, Ltd., Clough Road, Hull, £751,617. (1) 54 houses. (3) Direct Labour. (4) £74,500.

PORTLAND U.D.C. (1) 94 houses, 48 flats. (2) Verne Common. (3) Reema Construction, Ltd., Milford Manor, Salisbury. (4) £219,177.

ABINGDON B.C. (1) 45 flats. (2) Northcourt Road. (3) T. H. Kingierlee and Sons, Ltd., 35a, Queen Street, Oxford. (4) £71,127.

MIDDLESBROUGH T.C. (1) 104 houses. (2) Park End Estate. (3) Direct Labour. (4) £140,154. (1) 112 "Unity" houses. (2) Park End. (3) Unity Structures (London), Ltd., London.

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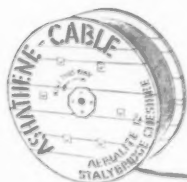
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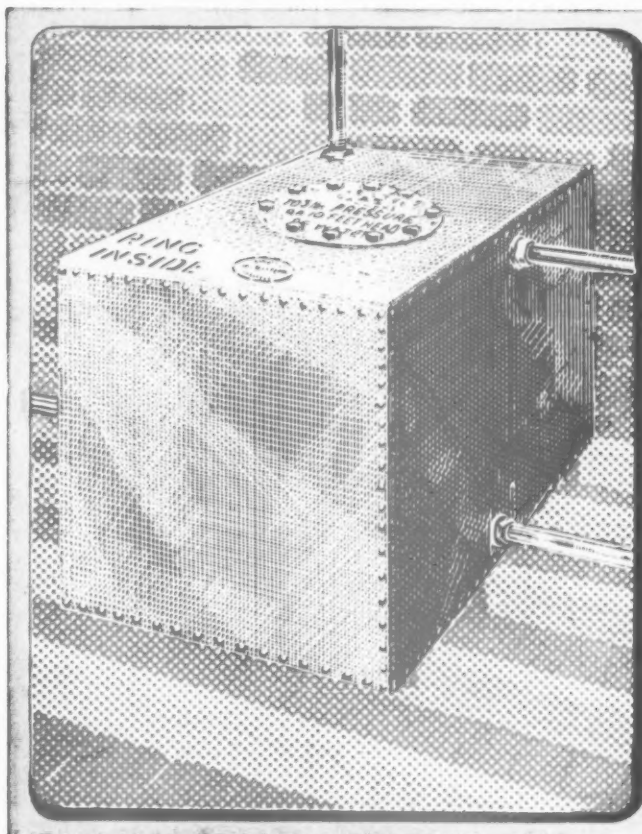
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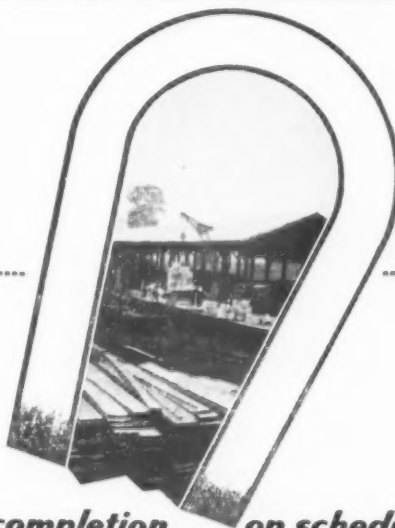
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APPOINTMENTS

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BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the under-mentioned appointments in the Architects' Section of the Borough Surveyor's Department:—

- (a) ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, Grade A.P.T. V(a) (Housing).
- (b) ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, Grade A.P.T. V(a) (Education).
- (c) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, Grade A.P.T. IV (Housing).
- (d) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, Grade A.P.T. III.

Applicants for appointments (a) and (b) should be qualified members of the R.I.B.A. and preferably having previous experience with a local authority. Candidates for (a) should be experienced in the layout of contemporary housing schemes, the design and construction of municipal houses, flats and shopping centres, and capable of administering building contracts.

For appointment (b) candidates should be qualified to take charge of the maintenance of education and public buildings, including the preparation of estimates, working drawings and specifications and administration of building contracts.

Applicants for appointments (c) and (d) should possess Intermediate R.I.B.A. status or its equivalent and have had practical experience in the preparation of working drawings, details and specifications for houses, flats and alterations to public buildings and be able to supervise building contracts.

The appointments will be subject (a) to the conditions of the service of the National Joint Council for Local Authorities Administrative, Professional, Technical and Clerical Service, (b) to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and (c) to the successful candidate passing a medical examination.

Applications, giving particulars of age, experience, etc., together with the names of two referees, should be addressed to the undersigned not later than Monday, 29th June, 1953.

KENNETH PEARCE,
Town Clerk.

Municipal Buildings,
OLDBURY. [7147]

BOROUGH OF MACCLESFIELD.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT ARCHITECT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of ASSISTANT ARCHITECT in the Borough Architect's Department.

Applicants should have passed the Intermediate Examination of the R.I.B.A. and the position will be within the A.P.T. Grades III to IV (£525-£600) according to experience.

Form of application may be obtained from the undersigned to whom it should be returned by 30th June, 1953.

WALTER ISAAC,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall,
Macclesfield,
June, 1953. [7156]

NORTHERN POLYTECHNIC

HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.7

THE Governing Body invite immediate applications for appointment as FULL-TIME LECTURER in the SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE. Candidates must be Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects by examination, and have had professional experience after qualifying. The teacher appointed will be required to undertake duties as a Studio Master in the post-Intermediate course and to lecture on technical subjects associated with Architecture in which he has particular interest and experience. Salary scale £940×£225 to £1,040, plus London Allowance. Form of application, together with full particulars, will be forwarded on receipt of a stamped, addressed foolscap envelope.

R. H. CURRELL, Clerk. [7160]

APPOINTMENTS—contd.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF ROTHERHAM.

APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF ASSISTANT ARCHITECT GRADE VIII.

AMENDED ADVERTISEMENT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the above appointment in the Architects' Department in the office of E. J. Manson, B.Eng., A.M.I.C.E., Borough Engineer, at a salary in accordance with Grade III of the A.P.T. Division of Scales £760-£835.

Applicants must be Registered Architects and Associate Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects and have had considerable experience in design, construction and contract administration preferably with a local authority particularly in connection with housing schemes.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT IF REQUIRED.

Applications, to be endorsed Chief Assistant Architect, stating age, qualifications, architectural training and details of experience together with copies of three recent testimonials should be received by me not later than July 6th, 1953.

Canvassing will disqualify.

JOHN S. WALL,
Town Clerk.

Municipal Offices,
Rotherham. [7150]

COUNTY BOROUGH OF GRIMSBY.

BOROUGH ENGINEER & SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT in the Architectural Section of the above Department in accordance with the conditions of service and scale of salary of the National Joint Council for A.P.T. Grade V (salary £595-£645 per annum).

The appointment is terminable by one month's notice on either side and is subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. The successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications stating age, qualifications and details of experience, together with copies of two recent testimonials, must be suitably endorsed and delivered to the undersigned not later than first post on Friday, 3rd July, 1953.

V. OLDFIELD,
Borough Engineer & Surveyor.

Municipal Offices,
Town Hall Square,
GRIMSBY. [7157]

BRADFORD EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TECHNICAL COLLEGE, BRADFORD

ARCHITECTURAL draughtsman for precast ment of SENIOR LECTURER in the Department of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Building in the College.

Special qualifications are desired in Architecture and in Surveying, including the Associateships of the Royal Institute of British Architects and of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The salary scale for men, which is according to the Burnham Technical Award, will be from £1,040 to £1,190 per annum.

Further particulars and forms of application may be obtained from the Director of Education, Town Hall, Bradford, 1, and completed forms should be returned to the Principal of the College as soon as possible.

A. SPALDING,
Director of Education. [7159]

ARCHWAY GROUP HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

BUILDING SUPERVISOR (Salary £500×£20—£600, plus London Weighting). Building trade apprenticeship desirable. Duties include preparation of plans and specifications for all work in the Group; checking of contractors' work and accounts; advising on direct labour work. Whitley Council conditions of service as for Group Clerk of Works.

Applications giving age, experience and qualifications to Group Secretary, 46, Cholmeley Park, N.6, within 10 days. [7166]

CONTRACTS

BOROUGH OF CHINGFORD.

ERECTION OF HOUSES—GOMMES FARM.

TENDERS are invited for the ERECTION of 24 SEMI-DETACHED HOUSES on the above site.

Bills of Quantities and Conditions will be forwarded on application to the Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Chingford, E.4, and upon payment of a deposit of two guineas returnable only in respect of a bona fide tender.

Sealed tenders in plain envelopes endorsed "GOMMES FARM HOUSES" to be delivered to the undersigned not later than 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 1st, 1953. Any tender received after this time will not be considered.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

FRANCIS J. O'DOWD,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall,
Chingford,
London, E.4. [7152]

SADDLEWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TENDERS FOR HOUSING.

BUILDING Contractors are invited to submit TENDERS for the ERECTION of 104 PERMANENT DWELLINGHOUSES AND 12 FLATS at Carr Barn Estate, Greenfield.

General conditions of Contract, Specification, Bills of Quantities and Form of Tender may be obtained on application from Messrs. Howard and Benson, Chartered Architects, 88, Mosley Street, Manchester, 2, on payment of a deposit of the sum of £2 2s with the application. Cheques should be made payable to Saddleworth Urban District Council.

Drawings may be inspected at the Office of the Architects and completed forms of tender should be forwarded in an envelope endorsed "Tender for Carr Barn Site" to the undersigned not later than the first post on the 6th July, 1953.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

T. NUTTALL,
Clerk to the Council.

Council Offices,
St. Chad's,
Uppermill,
Nr. Oldham. [7154]

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON.

TENDERS are invited for the ERECTION of BLOCKS OF DWELLINGS comprising ONE TEN STOREY BLOCK, ONE OF FIVE, and ONE OF FOUR STOREYS, containing in all 70 DWELLINGS on the MILDMAY CENTRE SITE, NEWINGTON GREEN ROAD, N.1.

The ten-storey block will be of reinforced concrete framework.

Applications for Bills of Quantities and Tender Forms must be accompanied by a deposit of Three Guineas (cheques made payable to the Islington Borough Council), together with references of ability to undertake reinforced concrete work in tall buildings, addressed to the Town Clerk, Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, London, N.1, by 25th JUNE, 1953.

Deposits are returnable on receipt of a bona fide tender, or the return of all documents not later than 7th AUGUST, 1953, or in the event of the references referred to above being inadequate.

Tenders are to be delivered to the Town Clerk by 10 o'clock, 12th AUGUST, 1953.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

H. DIXON CLARK,
Town Clerk.

8th June, 1953. [7165]

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WANTED, qualified Assistant, R.I.B.A. Finals, age 25-30, for Bournemouth office; must carry out contracts from sketches to final accounts. Reply, stating salary required and when free, Box 7723. [7146]

ARCHITECTURAL draughtsman for precast concrete design required by large firm of manufacturers in Wolverhampton area, apply stating age, experience and salary required to—Box 7844. [7158]

ASSISTANT, intermediate R.I.B.A., with some practical experience required in London office to fill vacancy offering good future prospects, salary by arrangement, five-day week.—Please write to Box 7803. [7153]

ARCHITECT—Vacancy occurs in a leading Belfast practice, varied work of public building class, for qualified architect capable of taking responsible charge contracts, drawings, specifications and office business; remuneration by arrangement; reply in writing in full, and state age, in confidence to—John MacGeagh, A.R.I.B.A., Chartered Architect, Scottish Provident Building, Donegall Square West, Belfast. [7163]

THE following vacancies occur in the Architect's Department of a leading Oil Company: (a) One Senior Assistant: £550-£700; should be qualified or studying for final examination; sound practical experience of contemporary design and construction is essential, including levels, specification and site supervision; (b) Two Assistants: £350-£500, of Intermediate Standard with sound practical knowledge; all these appointments are permanent, progressive and pensionable.—Reply, giving full particulars to Box 7860. [7162]

ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENTS VACANT—contd.

ARCHITECT—Vacancy occurs in a leading Belfast practice, varied interesting work, for competent assistant of intermediate to Final Standard; reply in writing, stating training, experience, age and present salary to—John MacGeagh, A.R.I.B.A., Chartered Architect, Scottish Provident Building, Donegall Square West, Belfast. [7164]

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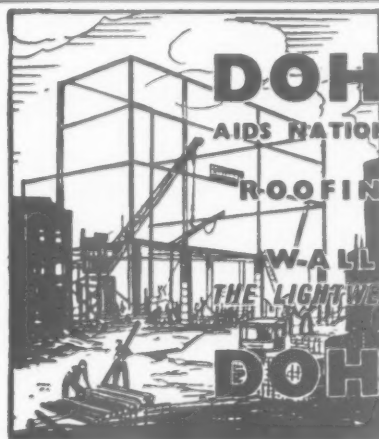
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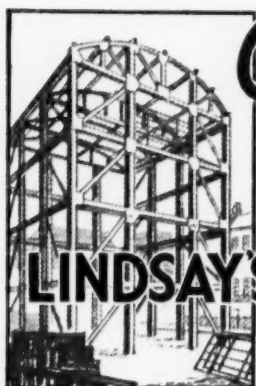
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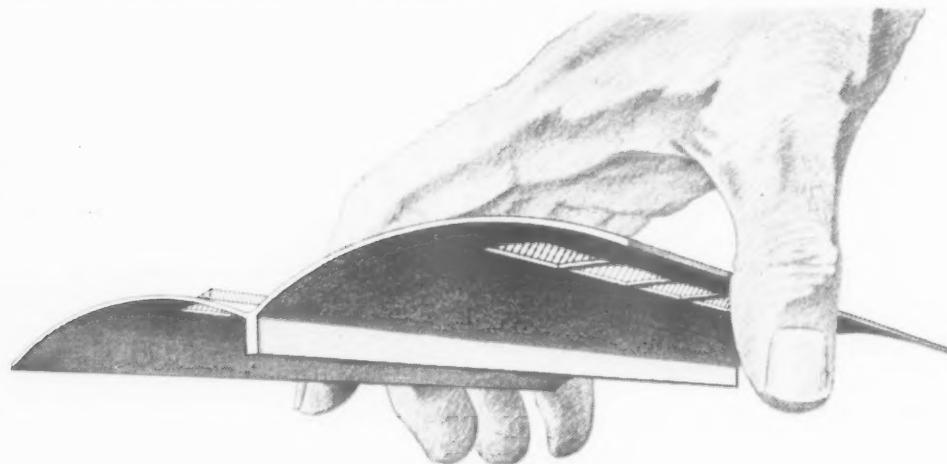
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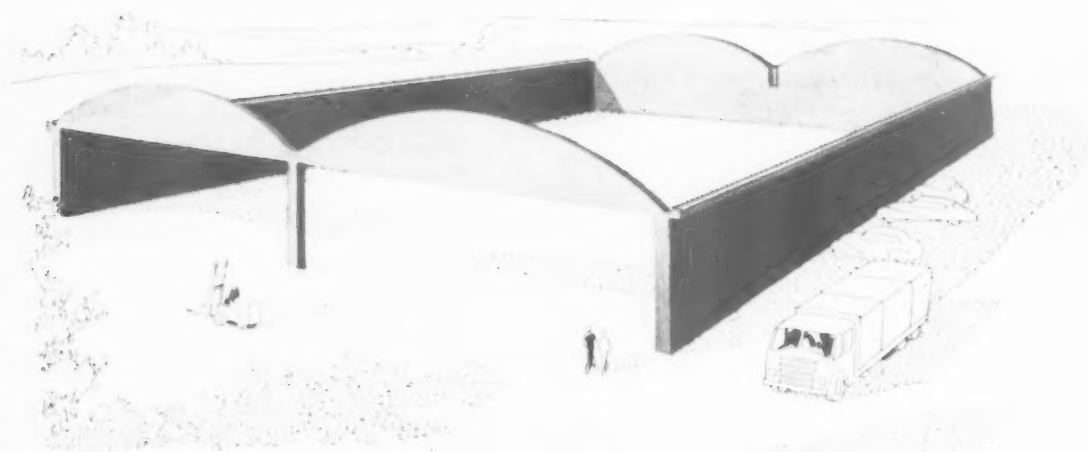


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